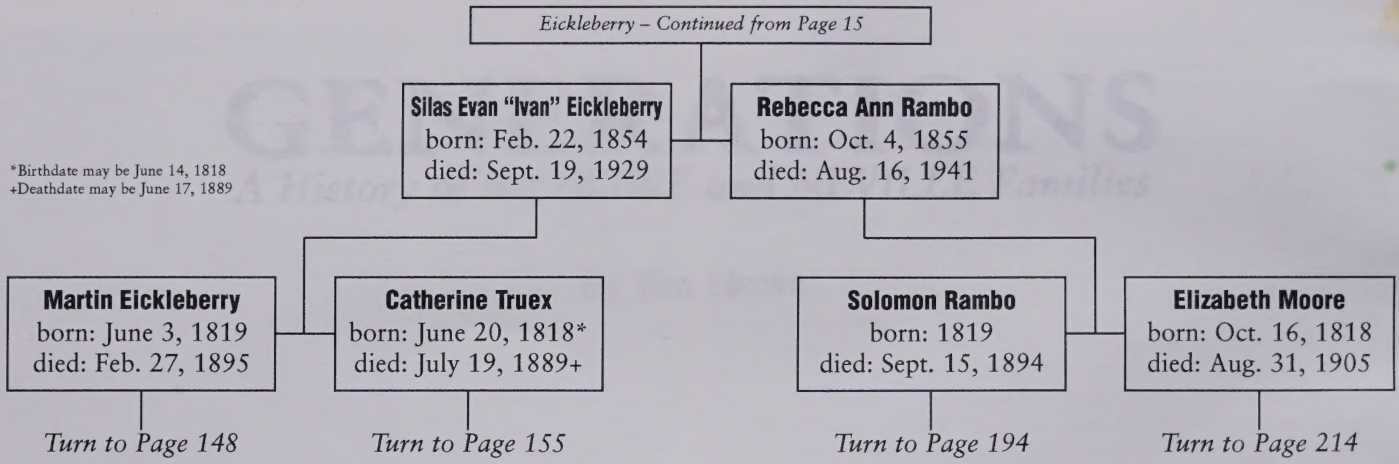
GENERATIONS

A History of the Howe and Neville Families

By Jim Howe



Biographies

Silas Evan "Ivan" Eickleberry

Sixth child of Martin Eickleberry and Catherine Truex. Born in Brown County, Indiana. Married Rebecca Ann Rambo April 8 (or 14), 1875. Five children.

Ivan (pronounced *iven* as in *given*) was born in a log cabin in Van Buren Township, one half-mile due west of the Grandview Church. He attended a log cabin school nearby for many years.

He married Rebecca in a ceremony at the Rambo family home with the newlywed couple taking up housekeeping on Grandview Ridge, near the Eickleberry family home. Justice of the Peace Silas Ping performed the wedding.

For the first three years of married life, Iven farmed nearby land owned by his father. Wanting land of his land, he prepared a covered wagon for a trip to Missouri, where land was cheaply available for homesteading. According to family lore, Martin learned of his son's ambitions and promised 40 acres west of the church if he would stay. Ivan agreed to this arrangement and farmed the 40-acre plot for approximately four years. Though some kind of misunderstanding, however, he never received the deed.

On June 8, 1878, Ivan sued Jacob and Ruth Hendershot in Brown County Circuit Court for defaulting on a loan. Ivan loaned $75 to the couple, who posted 40 acreas of land as security. By March of that year, the note was still unpaid. Ivan brought suit and the court ruled the Hendershots in default and foreclosure of the land was ordered.

Ivan, Rebecca and their first three children were found in Van Buren Township, next to his parents, by the 1880 Indiana census. Farming, of course, was listed as his occupation.

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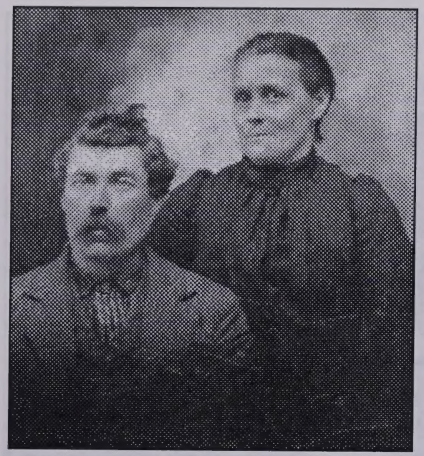


SILAS EVAN "IVAN" EICKLEBERRY and Rebecca Ann Rambo are pictured here in the early days of their marriage, although the exact date of this photograph is unknown. Photo courtesy of George and Chanie Lutz.

In 1881, Ivan purchased 40 acres just across the county line in neighboring Bartholomew County.

Ivan, with his black curley hair and clean-shaven appearance (he even used a razor his father had used before him), farmed and worked with a thrashing machine crew in Brown County until 1899. At that time, he moved to Columbus in Bartholomew County to work for the Pennsylvania Railroad. He used his weekends to keep farming until 1900. At that time, he moved the family to West Fourth Street. They stayed there briefly before moving to Wallace Street in east Columbus. This was followed by a relocation to a big, two-story home on South Beatty Street where he would spend his remaining days.

Ivan built his home on Beatty Street himself. He never finished the upstairs section.

When Ivan gave up farming for good in 1900, son James Daniel "Jim" Eickleberry took over the Brown County land.

Following his stint with the railroad, Ivan put in time in the Reeves Stacker factory blacksmith shop and as a night watchmen at local meat packing plant. He eventually took up carpentry, working with wood and nail for the rest of his life.

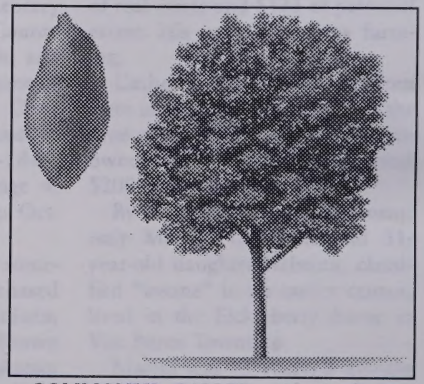
In his spare time, Ivan liked to fish at a local river and occasionally at a local bayou. Especially at Thanksgiving, he and the menfolk of the family would hunt rabbit and eat them with sugar molasses. In fact, Ivan ate sugar molasses with just about every meal. He also like "Indiana bananas," laying them on the ground to ripen before eating them raw.

The 1900 census recorded Ivan living on Fourth Street with his daughter Martha Alice and her husband, Orville Adam Sprague. Much of the 1900 data is contradictory. First, Ivan was listed with an Ohio birthplace, clearly wrong. Second, he claimed he was married for 25 years yet wife Rebecca was not in the household. Apparently, she was back in Brown County. That Ivan worked for the railroad is proved by his occupation listing: RR Section. Son-in-law Orville gave the same occupation.

Ivan and his wife were together by 1910 in his Columbus home on Beatty Street, which he owned with a mortgage. Then 55, he recorded "Carpenter/Householding" for his occupation and reported unemployment of 15 weeks during the previous year. A son, 20-year-old Henry (actually Hugh) Eickleberry, lived at home and reported the same occupation and unemployment data.

Little had changed by the time of the 1920 census other than Ivan's occupation was now "house carpenter." He was 65 years old.

Family members recall Ivan suffered from a life-long bunion on one of his feet. To ease the pain on the tender sore, he would cut the side out of his shoe. Grand-daughter Chanie Sprague Lutz remembers her grandmother "fussing" with the old man on several occa-



COMMONLY CALLED AN "Indiana Banana," the papaw is the yellowish green fruit of a North American tree common to Indiana and many other states. Photo courtesy of Grolier Multimedia Encyclopedia.

***IVAN AND BECKY ANN RAMBO EICKLEBERRY** sit in front of their family in this photograph from approximately 1925. From left to right are Elizabeth (known as Bess), Martha, James Daniel (Jim) and Mary Frances (Mollie). Son Hugh, the youngest of the children, sits beside Becky Ann. Photo courtesy of George and Chanie Lutz.*

sions about the ruining of his shoe.

"Creeping Paralysis," an early term for stroke, kept him bedfast for the last four or five years of his life before he died in 1929. To help care for him, the children pitched in. Sometime before his death, he and Rebecca moved back in with Martha Alice and Orville.

Following his death, Ivan was buried in Garland Brook Cemetery in Columbus.

Grand-daughter Chanie remembers her grandpa as a "sour old man, set in his ways." His late-life illness undoubtedly had something to do with this memory.

Martin Eickleberry

Son of George Eickleberry and Rebecca Dorr. Born in Pennsylvania. Married Catherine Truex Sept. 20, 1837. Eight children. Married Sarah Maring March 27, 1890. No children.

Martin was first found in Green Township of Monroe County, Ohio, for the 1840 census. With his last name spelled "Eceleberry," his household contained one male, age 0-5; one male, 20-30; and one female, 20-30. One person was employed in agriculture while one of the two adults couldn't read or write.

Abram Eceleberry, Martin's uncle, and his family of nine lived just up the road from Martin; George, Martin's father, lived in nearby Sunsberry Township.

It is believed the Eickleberry family moved to Monroe County sometime in the mid-1830s and certainly were there by the time of the 1840 census. *Early Ohio Settlers: Purchasers of Land in Southeastern Ohio, 1800-1840*, records Martin buying Range 4, Township 2, Section 24, on Oct. 31, 1838.

Martin stayed there until sometime after 1847 when he purchased land in Brown County, Indiana, and moved the family there. Brown County records show Martin bought 40 acres of land in Township 8, Range 4, Section 17 (NW1/4 SW1/4) of Van Buren Township Jan. 3, 1850.

Not coincidently, New Bellsville is located in Van Buren Township. The small town is named after Beallsville, a small village back in Sunsberry Township of Monroe County, Ohio, where Martin lived prior to his Brown County emigration.

The 1850 census found Martin in his new home, owning $100 of real estate, professing to neither read nor write and giving a Pennsylvania birthplace. Wife Catherine and three children made up the household.

In 1860, Martin owned $1,000 of real estate and $121 of personal estate. His occupation was farming.

Catherine and four children were in Martin's household by the time of the 1870 census. Martin owned $800 of real estate and $200 of personal estate.

By the time of the 1880 census, only Martin, Catherine and 31-year-old daughter Rebecca, classified "insane" in an earlier census, lived in the Eickleberry home in Van Buren Township.

Martin was 75 years, 8 months and 24 days old when he died in 1895. He was buried in New Bellsville Cemetery; his marker, prepared by Unger and Jones of

Columbus (in neighboring Bartholomew County), reads: *Rest father rest in quiet sleep while friends in sorrow o'er thee weep.*

According to John W. Hamblen's *Federal Land Entries for Brown County, Indiana*, Martin's father, George, and his Uncle Abraham also bought land in Brown County. George purchased 80 acres in Township 7, Range 4, Section 8 E1/2 NE1/4 8 on Dec. 19, 1851, while Abraham bought 40 acres in the same township/range/section SW1/4 NE 1/4 on Nov. 26, 1851.

Perhaps the whole Eickleberry clan planned on moving to Brown County. For reasons unknown, the plan never materialized. George and Abraham never left Monroe County, Ohio; George died there in 1858 while Abraham passed away in 1884.

It is not known if the land was transferred or sold to Martin, returned to the government or sold to someone outside the family.

Sarah Maring

Daughter of Moses Maring and Ellen Monroe. Born Dec. 23, 1826, in Ohio. Married William Slusher (born June 23, 1825/died May 23, 1867) date unknown. Married James Dye (died May 4, 1879) Feb. 17, 1877. Married Martin Eickleberry March 27, 1890 (his second marriage). No children.

Sarah died Jan. 23, 1905. She was buried in New Bellsville Cemetery in Brown County, Indiana, next to her first husband.

Elizabeth Moore

Daughter of Dan Moore and Saloma, maiden name unknown. Born in Ohio. Married Solomon Rambo Sept. 28, 1837, in Perry County, Ohio. Twelve children: Charlotte Rambo – born 1837-38; Mariah Rambo – born 1839/died June 6, 1877; Daniel Rambo – born Dec. 11, 1842/died March 2, 1928; Hannah Rambo – born Jan. 9, 1844/died Sept. 19, 1925; John Lorenzo Rambo – born June 3, 1843/died May 21, 1921; Huldah C. Rambo – born May xx, 1850; Elizabeth Rambo – born Nov. 18, 1852/died Jan. 11, 1892; Andrew "Jack" Rambo (twin) – born Oct. 4, 1855/died May 12, 1900; Rebecca Ann Rambo (twin); William J. Rambo – born Jan. 2, 1859/died Jan. 7, 1940; Henry Rambo – born Oct. 4, 1861/died Jan. 23, 1926; and George Rambo – born 1867/died Feb. 4, 1894.

The first seven children were born in Ohio's Perry County while the remaining five children were born in Van Buren Township of Brown County, Indiana.

***RAMBO FAMILY TRADITION** claims the family came to Indiana in a wagon train with many families. Popular at that time was the famous Conestoga wagon, like the one pictured here in this reenactment. This cumbersome wagon could carry up to six tons and was usually drawn by four to eight oxen or, later out West, horses. Photo pulled from the World Wide Web.*

Elizabeth and family lived in Salt Lick Township of Perry County during the taking of the 1840 and 1850 Ohio censuses.

In 1850, children living at home were Charlotte, 12; Maria(h), 10; Daniel, 8; Hannah, 5; John, 2; and Huldah, four months. The four oldest children attended school. Mistakingly, the census listed all the children as born in Pennsylvania. Elizabeth and husband Solomon's information included the fact they could neither read nor write.

Sometime between 1852 (the birth of Elizabeth) and 1855 (the birth of the twins, Jack and Rebecca), the family moved west to Indiana. Family tradition holds the Rambo family was one of many families in a huge wagon train which passed through central Ohio and eventually Brown and Bartholomew counties in Indiana. It is possible the wagon train contained members of the Eickleberry, Truex, Moore and Sprague fami-

lies, who all settled in the aforementioned Indiana counties at about the same time and intermarried.

However the Rambo family got to Indiana, they were definitely in Van Buren Township of Brown County by 1860. In the census of that year, Elizabeth was keeping house for her husband and children: Mariah, 18; Daniel, 16; Hannah, 14; John, 12; Hilda, 10; Elizabeth, 8; twins Andrew and Rebecca, 6; and William J., 1. Only John attended school.

No changes were reported for the 1870 census other than the addition of Henry, then 8, and George, then 5, to the family.

By the time of the 1880 census, only Henry, 18, and George, 15, were still at home with their parents. Both boys were listed as farm laborers. In this census, Elizabeth gave a Pennsylvania birthplace for each of her parents.

Following her husband's death in 1894, Elizabeth moved in with son Henry and his family (wife Lilly and daughter Flossa E.) in Van Buren Township. The 1900 census verified this arrangement. Elizabeth indicated she had learned how to read but still couldn't write.

She died at home in 1905 and was buried at New Bellsville Cemetery in Brown County.

Elizabeth's sister, Saloma Moore, married Catherine Truex's brother Henry, indicating the Moore, Truex and Rambo families knew each other before ever migrating to Indiana.

In another note, Elizabeth's daughter Mariah married William Henderson in 1868, giving birth to ten children before dying in 1877. Henderson then married Hannah, Elizabeth's next daughter who was five years younger.

Son John moved to Hamlin, Texas, sometime before his death in 1921. Another son – George – died of tuberculosis in 1894. He also was buried in New Bellsville Cemetery.

Rebecca Ann Rambo

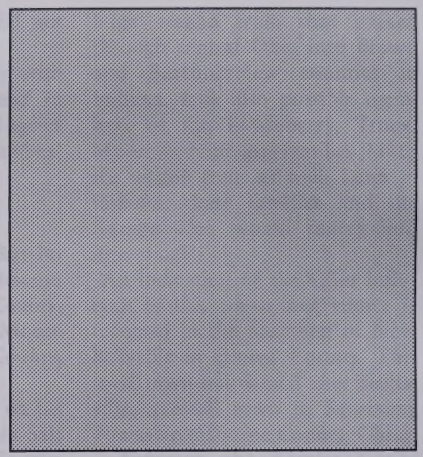
Ninth child of Solomon Rambo and Elizabeth Moore, and a twin to Andrew "Jack" Rambo. Born near New Bellsville in Van Buren Township of Brown County, Indiana. Married Silas Evan "Ivan" Eickleberry April 14, 1875. Five children: Catherine Elizabeth "Bess" Eickleberry – born Jan. 14, 1876/died Jan. 6, 1952; James Daniel Eickleberry – born July 27, 1877/died March 24, 1946; Martha Alice Eickleberry; Mary Frances "Mollie" Eickleberry – born March 11, 1881/died March 2, 1929; and Charles Hugh Eickleberry – born July 24, 1890/died Feb. 12, 1957.

All of the children were born in Brown County.

Rebecca was found at her Brown County home with her husband and children by the 1880 census. Oddly, she was not with Ivan for the 1900 census; he was in Columbus in Bartholomew County with Martha Alice and her husband, Orville Adam Sprague, but Rebecca was not in the household.

The 1910 census found Rebecca and Ivan together again, this time in a house on Beatty Street in Columbus. No occupation was reported and only Henry (Hugh), 20, was still at home among the children. Like she did in 1880 and 1900, Rebecca stated she was illiterate.

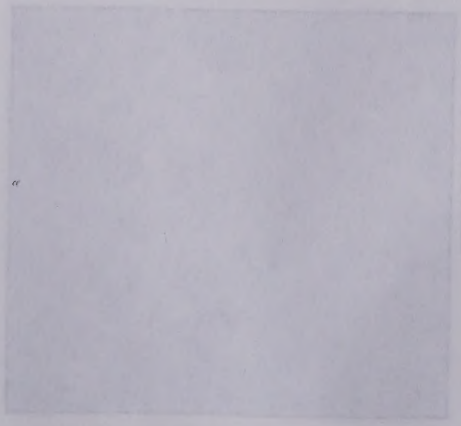
Nothing different was recorded in the 1920 census, other than no children were still at home.

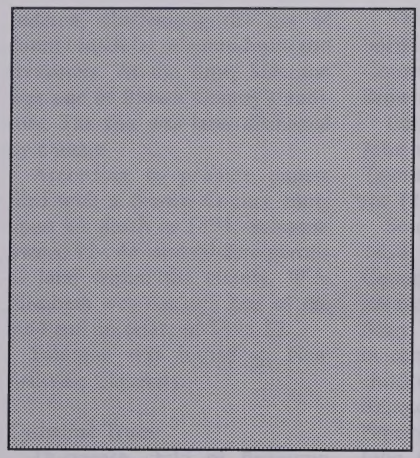


REBECCA ANN RAMBO
CUTLINE TEST
Photo courtesy of .

A family story exists about Rebecca and Ivan's visit to the annual New Bellsville picnic. At one year's picnic, "Becky Ann," as she was known, had a little too much "hard cider" to drink. Ivan had to take her home the long way (giving her enough time to somber up, it is hoped).

Rebecca had two passions in life: Children and cooking. Grand-





SOLOMON RAMBO
CUTLINE TEST
Photo courtesy of .

daughter Chanie Sprague Lutz remembers her grandma loved children and often had her grand- and great-grandchildren spending the night at her house. Chanie herself spent a few nights there, sleeping with her grandmother due to a shortage of beds and fear of the dark. Despite being on the heavy side, Rebecca would often sit flat on the floor with her feet straight ahead playing games with the children.

As for the kitchen, she specialized in oyster soup and sugar molasses. Her sugar molasses, in particular, must have been quite tasty for one family member claims Ivan ate it at every meal.

Rebecca herself was short and, as mentioned before, on the heavy side. Generally quiet, she often could be found in her rocking chair smoking a corn cob pipe. As census returns testify, she could not read or write. Grand-daughter Chanie, however, remembers her grandmother using reading glasses at times to read printing (but not handwriting). Chanie also mentions Rebecca was crosseyed and didn't have much schooling, both of which contributed to her illiteracy.

Sometime before Ivan's death in 1929, Rebecca and her sick husband moved in with daughter Martha and her family. Following Ivan's death, Rebecca moved in with daughter Bess and her husband, Harley Rambo, in Jonesville, Indiana. Bess and Harley did not have any children.

Old age finally caught up with "Becky Ann" and she died in New Bellsville at the ripe old age of 86. She was buried in Columbus' Garland Brook Cemetery.

Solomon Rambo

Seventh child of George Rambo and Mary Fist. Born in Newton Township of Muskingum County, Ohio. Married Elizabeth Moore Sept. 28, 1837, in Perry County, Ohio. Twelve children.

Solomon was first found on his own in 1840, showing up in Salt Lick Township of Perry County. The household consisted of one male, age 20-30; one female, 0-5; and one female, 20-30. One individual was employed in agriculture while one adult was illiterate.

Ten years later, Solomon was again found in Perry County, along with his wife Elizabeth and three children. A farmer, he owned $300 of real estate and was still illiterate. For the only time in his life, he gave a Pennsylvania birth.

Sometime between 1852 and 1855, Solomon moved the family west to Brown County, Indiana. Family tradition claims the Rambo family joined several families in a huge wagon train that passed through central Ohio into Brown and Bartholomew counties in Indiana. It is also possible members of the Eickleberry, Truex, Moore and Sprague families joined the wagon train as well. Later in Indiana, these families and the Rambo clan would marry and intermingle.

An indication of the Ohio influence in this whole migration is reflected in the founding of New Bellsville in Brown County. This small town was named after Beallsville, a small town in Sunsberry Township (Monroe County, Ohio).

Anyways, the Rambo family was in Brown County's Van Buren Township for the 1860 census. Solomon, a farmer, owned $800 of real estate and $400 of personal estate.

For the 1870 census, most of the information was the same as 1860, except Solomon owned $1,000 and $500 of real estate and personal estate, respectively.

In the 1880 census, Solomon listed Pennsylvania as the birthplace of both of his parents.

In 1883, Solomon, George W. Roush and William P. Stull were one of 40 persons to file a class-action suit again the State of

Indiana, challenging the use of county funds by other auditors and treasurers. At the time, Solomon was one of Brown County's auditors. The suit was later dismissed by a judge.

According to probate papers filed with a Brown County court upon his death in 1894, Solomon owned 92-, 46- and 40-acre parcels of land within the county. Wife Elizabeth was the sole heir of the land and an estate of $395.10.

Solomon was buried in New Bellsville Cemetery.

Catherine Truex

Thirteenth child of Benjamin Truex and Catherine Sams. Born in Ohio. Married Martin Eickleberry Sept. 20, 1837. Eight children: John Eickleberry – born Oct. 7, 1838; Julia Ann Eickleberry – born March 21, 1841/died Jan. 10, 1916; Susanna Eickleberry – born May 11 (or 4), 1843/died Jan. 3, 1845; Rebecca Ann Eickleberry – born Jan. 18, 1847; Henry Eickleberry – born Jan. 27, 1852/died March 22, 1854; Silas Evan "Ivan" Eickleberry; Francis Marion Eickleberry – born Oct. 28, 1856/died Nov. 18, 1938; and George Eickleberry – born Feb. 11, 1863/died Feb. 26, 1863.

The first four children were born in Ohio, probably in Monroe County, with the rest born in Brown County, Indiana.

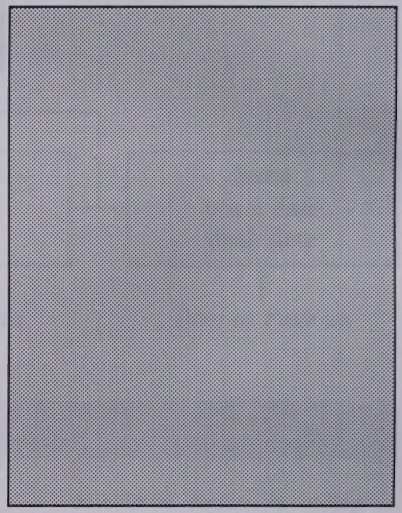
Catherine, Martin and first-born John were found living in Greene Township of Monroe County for the 1840 census.

Sometime between 1847 and 1850, the family moved to Brown County with the 1850 Indiana census recording their presence in Van Buren Township. For the only time in census returns, Catherine and children John, Julia Ann and Rebecca were listed as born in Pennsylvania. John, then 11, and Julia Ann, then 8, both attended school.

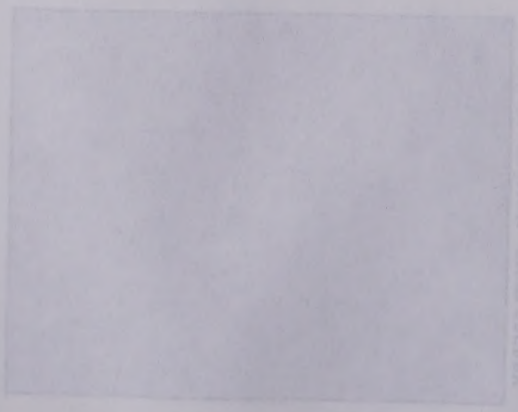
Very little additional data is offered by the 1860, 1870 and 1880 censuses. Catherine's occupation was consistently listed as housekeeping with her age continually increased by ten years. The only oddities in these censuses are: 1860, son Ivan was listed as Jim; 1860, daughter Rebecca was classified "insane" and would be found living with her parents for as long as they lived; and 1880, when Catherine did not state her parent's birthplaces though the census listed such information that year.

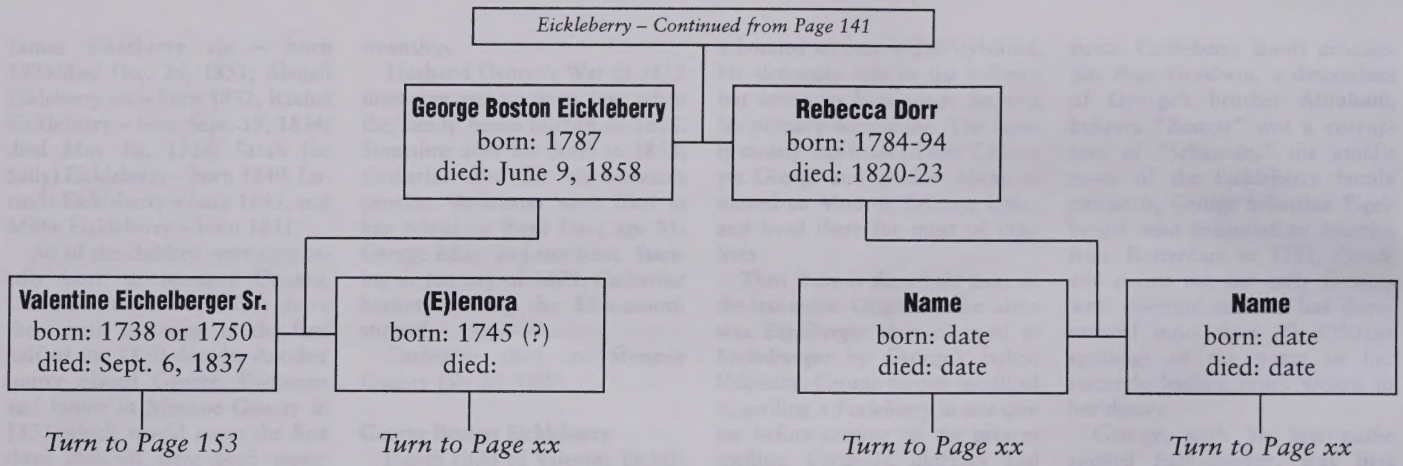
Catherine died in 1889 at the age of 71 years, 1 month and 5 days. She was buried in New Bellsville Cemetery in Brown County. Incredibly, her last name is mispelled on her marker: *Eickleburry* instead of *Eickleberry*. How this mispelling happened is unknown. However, Martin would have been responsible for all burial arrangements, including her marker. Martin was illiterate with census returns consistently noting this fact. Thus, he probably didn't know what spelling to tell the monument company.

Catherine had a brother – Henry Truex – who married into the Moore family, wedding Elizabeth Moore's sister Saloma. This fact, combined with information that members of the Moore, Rambo, Eickleberry, Truex and Sprague families moved to Indiana from Ohio at roughly the same time, seems to indicate the families had a close relationship in Indiana and probably one prior to that in Ohio.



***MARION FRANCIS EICKLEBERRY** and wife Mary Parker Eickleberry stand on their 160-acre farm in Brown County, Indiana. The farm was part of a larger segment which made up the original Eickleberry plot started by Martin Eickleberry in 1850. A small corner of Marion's farm was later donated to the Unitarian Church, which built a chapel and cemetery which stand today. Marion was the next-to-youngest child of Martin and Catherine Truex Eickleberry. Photo courtesy of Dick Eichleberry.*





Biographies

Rebecca Dorr

Born in Pennsylvania (as reported by son Martin Eickleberry in the 1880 Indiana census). Married George Boston Eickleberry. At least two children: William Eikleberry *sic* – born April 26, 1817/ died June 16, 1896; and Martin Eickleberry.

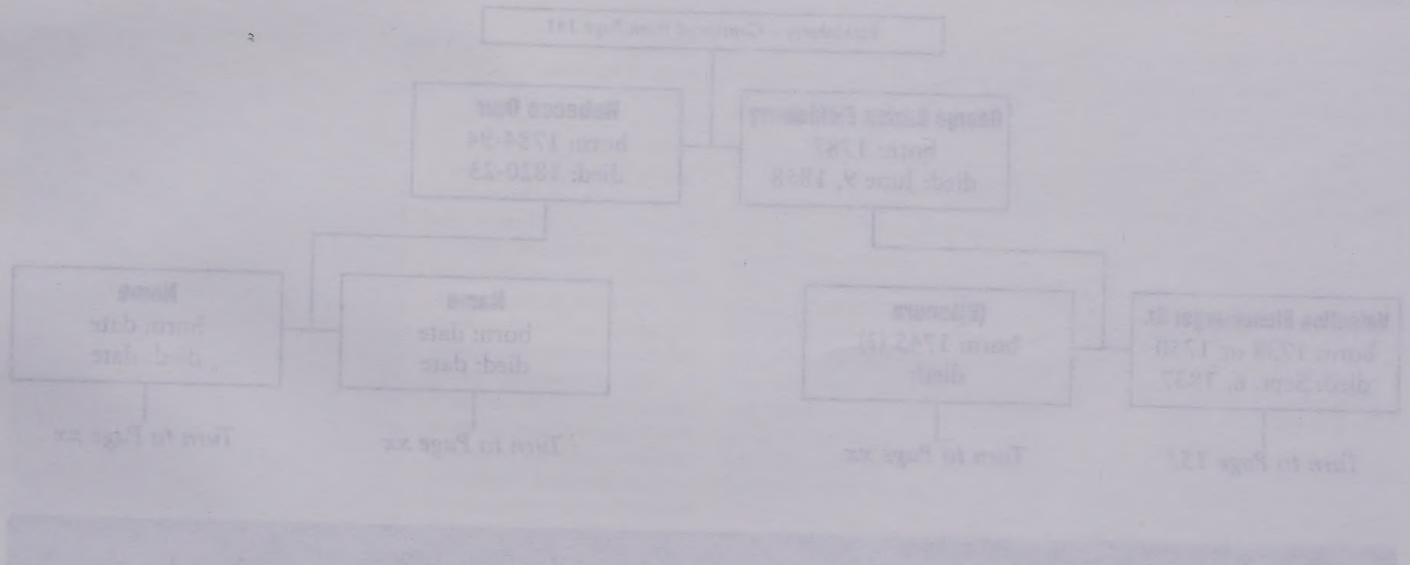
Five females under the age of 16 years were found in Rebecca and George's household by the 1820 Pennsylvania census, which would give Rebecca a minimum of seven children.

William's birthplace is known to be Greene County, Pennsylvania; Martin reported Pennsylvania in his census returns and it is highly probable he was born in Greene County as well. William wound up in Monroe County, Ohio, where many of the Eickleberry clan migrated in the 1830s and 1840s. William married, raised a family then died and was buried (in Utility Church Cemetery) there.

Though Rebecca's exact death date is unknown, it must have came sometime between 1820 and 1823 because she was found in the census of 1820 and it is certain George remarried in May of 1823. With these dates, she most likely was buried in Greene County.

Catherine Eddy

Born in Greene County, Pennsylvania, in 1804 although this date is in doubt. According to 1830 census returns, she was born sometime between 1800 and 1810. Married George Boston Eicklberry (his second marriage) May 15, 1823, in Greene County. No marriage license existed for the union but witnesses Richard Steward and F.W. Brown vouched for the date and authenticity during pension hearings many years later. Seven children: Isaac Eikleberry *sic* – born Jan. 28, 1826/died 1906;



James Eikleberry *sic* – born 1828/died Dec. 24, 1851; Abigail Eikleberry *sic* – born 1832; Rachel Eickleberry – born Sept. 19, 1834/ died May 12, 1924; Sarah (or Sally) Eickleberry – born 1840; Lucinda Eickleberry – born 1845; and Millie Eickleberry – born 1851.

All of the children were supposedly born in Monroe County, Ohio, but the family didn't move there until sometime in the first half of the 1830 decade. Another source placed George, Catherine and family in Monroe County in 1833 which would mean the first three children were born somewhere else, most probably Greene County. To further cloud the issue, eldest child Isaac indicated he was born in Pennsylvania for his 1850 Ohio census returns while second-born James claimed Ohio.

The 1850 census found Catherine, then 46, keeping house for George and the four children still living at the couple's Perry Township (Monroe County) home: Abigail, 18; Rachel, 16; Sally, 10; and Lucinda, 5. All four attended school. Catherine indicated she couldn't read or write. Son Isaac and his family lived next door while James, also married with children, lived nearby in the same township.

Husband George's War of 1812 discharge papers were lost when the family house burned in 1815. Sometime after his death in 1858, Catherine filed for his veteran's pension. Affidavits were filed in her behalf by Bazil Dye, age 51; George Eddy; and son Isaac. Starting in January of 1879, Catherine began drawing the $8-a-month stipend.

Catherine died in Monroe County July 21, 1890.

George Boston Eickleberry

Eighth child of Valenine Eichelberger Sr. and (E)lenora, maiden name unknown. Born in Greene County, Pennsylvania. Married Rebecca Dorr sometime between 1800 and 1810. At least two, and possibly seven, children. Married Catherine Eddy May 15, 1823. Seven children.

Both marriages probably occured in Greene County; currently, only the second is known definitely to have taken place there.

Very little personal information is available about George. Military records indicate he stood approximately 5'8"or 5'10"tall, had black hair and eyes and was of fair complexion. One source claims he was a bonded servant in Pennsylvania. He definitely was in the military but seems to have made farming his primary occupation. The family mostly was from Greene County yet George and brother Abraham moved to Monroe County, Ohio, and lived there for most of their lives.

Then there is the whole issue of the last name. Originally, the name was *Eigelberger* then changed to *Eichelberger* by George's father, Valentine. George further modified it, spelling it *Eceleberry* in one census before settling on the present spelling. Certainly, illiteracy had something to do with the changes, but it is unknown if that was the sole reason. The *Eichelberger* version persisted into the 20th century when the family ventured into Indiana. Yet another version is the *Eichleberry* spelling used by a branch of the family in Texas.

All spellings are derivatives of the orginal *Eichelberg*, which means *oak* and was a topograhic name for someone who lived near an oak tree or in an oak wood. In Jewish, Eichelberg means *oak hill.*

Family tradition holds that George's branch of the family were of Irish and Dutch descent.

There is also George's middle name. Eickleberry family genealogist Fran Goodwin, a descendant of George's brother Abraham, believes "Boston" was a corruption of "Sebastian," the middle name of the Eickleberry family patriarch, George Sebastian Eigelberger, who emigrated to America from Rotterdam in 1751. Goodwin points out the early families were illiterate and she has documented more than 30 different spellings of the name in her research, lending much weight to her theory.

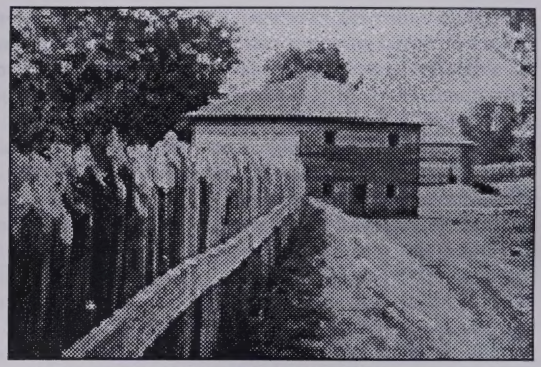
George, with his last name spelled *Eichelberger*, was first found by a Federal Census in Greene County in 1810. His household consisted of one male, age 0-10; one male, 26-45; one female, 0-10; and one female, 16-26.

Greene County was settled in the mid-1700s, mostly by settlers from Virginia and Maryland. In fact, Virginia officials claimed the land as part of that state and began levying taxes and installing various officials to govern the area. As part of Virginia, the area was known as Augusta County. Later, the area was broke into three counties: Ohio County which included portions of eastern Ohio and western

SOLDIERS IN THE WAR OF 1812 wore uniforms like this. Photo courtesy of Grolier Multimedia Encyclopedia.

sections of present-day Washington and Greene counties; Monongahela County, the middle part of Pennsylvania; and Youghiogeny County, which included parts of present-day Fayette and Westmoreland counties (Pennsylvania) and the eastern edges of Washington and Greene counties. Virginia and Pennsylvania settled the dispute in 1784 (the land *DID* belong to Pennsylvania) but many people still called the area part of Virginia until 1800. As part of Pennsylvania, the area later to become Greene County was part of Springhill Township of Bedford County in 1772; in 1773, it became part of Westmoreland County. By 1781, the area was a major portion of Washington County's Greene Township. Greene County was officially formed in 1796.

Greene County was also home to a small, old town called Beallsville. Located on the famous National Road, the town was liad out Sept. 13, 1819, by Jonathan Knight, surveyor. It's first residents included Zephimiah Beall, Zeph W. Beall (his son), Christian Kreider and George Jackson. The plot included 128 lots on three streets; Joseph Mills built the first house around 1821. Many Greene County residents, including George Eickleberry, moved to Monroe County, Ohio, in the 1830s, 1840s and 1850s. As such, it should be no surprise that a Beallsville exists in that Ohio county. When the Monroe County folks moved on to Brown County, Indiana, in the 1850s and '60s, a town called New Bellsville was started there.

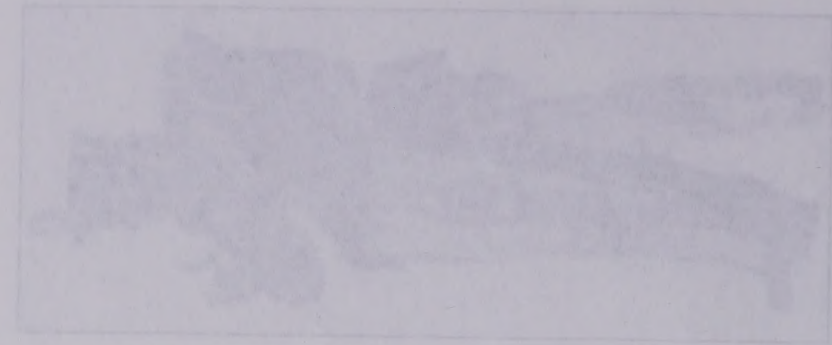


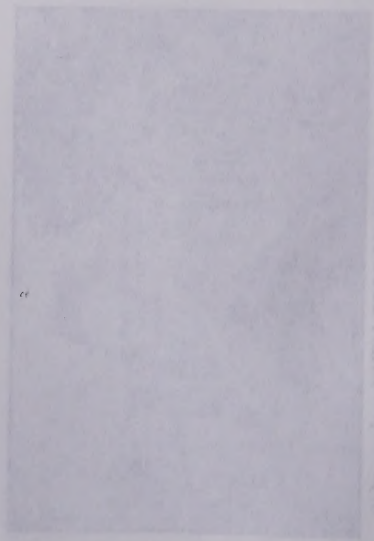
THE BLOCKHOUSE OF FORT MEIGS and one of its walls stand reconstructed for visitors today. Later-president William Henry Harrison built the fort in 1813 to protect northwest Ohio and Indiana during the War of 1812. Originally, the fort occupied ten acres with its seven blockhouses and five emplacements. British and Indian forces beseiged the fort twice (May 1813 and July 1813) but failed to capture it. Photo pulled from the World Wide Web, courtesy of the Ohio Historical Society.

On Sept. 24, 1812, George and younger brother Abraham enlisted in Captain John Brown's Company of the 1st Regular Pennsylvania Militia under General Richard Crooks. Both of the brothers were privates in the volunteer infantry unit and enlisted at Waynesburg, Pennsylvania.

Pay stubs for George were found in the National Archives in Washington D.C. and show George earned a (whopping) $6.66 per month for each of his six-month enlistment.

George and Araham were stationed at Fort Meigs, located on the south bank of the Maumee River, just below the rapids near Perrysburg, Ohio; today, Maumee, Ohio, and Toledo are located on the other side of the river and the





reconstructed fort. Fort Meigs was built by Major Eleazer Woods, one of the first graduates of West Point, and named in honor of Ohio's wartime governor, Return Jonathan Meigs Jr. Construction was ordered by General William Henry Harrison and begun Feb. 1, 1813.

By the end of February, construction was only partially finished. The Ohio and Kentucky militias, stationed there and responsible for the construction, had finished their tours of duty and left. They were replaced by Pennsylvania (which was George and Abraham's unit) and Virginia militias, whose tour of duty expired in April. John R. Elting wrote in his book, *Amateurs, To Arms: A Military History of the War of 1812*: "Instead of working on the fort, they [the Pennsylvania and Virginia militias] had been using the wood cut for its palisades for their campfires."

About the same time, Oliver Hazard Perry and Noah Brown had set up a ship-building yard on nearby Presque Island and asked for volunteers from the Pennsylvania militia. Eltin's book mentioned the "local Pennsylvania militia proved unwilling to do any guard duty; only seven privates out of two companies responded when ordered out."

George and Abraham were discharged April 2, 1813, from Fort Meigs "having 300 miles to travel home" according to the muster roll sheets. The eastern tip of Greene County is approximately 200-250 miles away from where the fort stood back then.

Interestingly, most of the military records list George's last name as *Eichelberger* or *Eckelberger* while Abraham's last name is spelled *Eikleberry* or *Eichelberry*. However, additional military records have been discovered spelling Abraham's last name as "Eichelberger," as well.

George's discharge papers were lost in 1815 when the family home burned. Sometime after his death in 1858, Catherine filed for his veteran's pension. Affidavits were filed in her behalf by Bazil Dye, age 51; George Eddy; and son Isaac Eikleberry.

Following the War, George returned to Greene County. His 1820 census listing located him in Wayne Township with a household of two males, ages 0-10; one male, 26-45; four females, 0-10; one female, 10-16; and one female, 26-45.

Ten years later, George's Greene County household contained one male, age 0-5; one male, 5-10; one male, 10-15; one male, 40-50; two females, 10-15; and one female, 20-30.

Midway through the 1830 decade George and family moved to Monroe County, Ohio, which is located in the southeastern section of the Buckeye State and borders the Ohio River. One source pegged the date of the move as 1833.

Early Ohio Settlers: Purchasers of Land in Southeastern Ohio, 1800-1840, compiled by Elllen T. and David A. Berry, records George buying Range 5, Township 5, Section 9, of land there Feb. 1, 1836. Abraham, his brother, purchased a similiar plot (4/2/35) on April 27 of that same year while son Martin (from his first marriage) purchased land in the county in 1838.

All three were found there by the 1840 Ohio census. George's household in Sunsberry Township consisted of one male, age 10-15; one male, 15-20; one male, 50-60; two females, 0-5; one female, 5-10; and one female, 30-40. Two adults couldn't read or write while three members of the household were employed in agriculture. Abraham was just up the road from George in Sunsberry Township while Martin was in nearby Green Township.

The 1840 census is notable for one reason: It is the first census where George spelled his last name as Eickleberry – though the spelling, *Eceleberry*, was crude.

Sunsberry Township, where the Eickleberry and Truex families took up residence, was populated between 1805 and 1813 with the original settlement located three-quarters-of-a-mile south of the small town of Beallsville. Among those first settlers were Benjamin Truax and Jacob Truex. At 28.4 square miles in size, Sunsberry is bounded by Switzerland Township on the east, Adams and Centers townships on the south, Malaga Township on the west and Belmont County on the north. Its boundaries were set June 24, 1819. Beallsville was undoubtedly named after Bealsville, a small town in Washington County (later partioned to form Greene County), Pennsylvania. It is known George originally hailed from Greene County and is highly probable other Sunsberry Township settlers did also.

The 1850 census found George, then 63 and spelling his last name *Eikleberry*, in Perry Township of

Monroe County. George owned $200 of real estate and still couldn't read or write. Two sons from his second marriage – Isaac and James – lived there as well; Isaac, in fact, was his father's neighbor.

The 1850 census also illuminates another point. George's son Martin married Catherine Truex in 1837. Some evidence exists that the Eickleberry and Truex families knew each other and possibly hailed from the same county. With this in mind, the presence of 38-year-old Benjamin Truax two houses up from George and the additional listings of Philip and Amos Truax in the township are potentially significant.

George is not found in any further census, passing away in 1858 at his home in Perry Township. He almost certainly was buried in a nearby Monroe County cemetery.

Valentine Eichelberger Sr.

First or second child of George Sebastian Eigelberger and Anna Catherina Hauserin. Born in Germany (if born in 1738) or Pennsylvania (if born in 1750). Married (E)lenora, maiden name unknown. Nine children.

Valentine was a veteran of the American Revolutionary War, serving with Captain William Campbell's Company of the Cumberland County (Pennsylvania) Militia. His DAR listing gave a 1750 Pennsylvania birth and listed his rank as private.

Other sources place his birth around 1738, which is prior to his father's emigration in 1751. Thus, these sources place his birthplace as Germany.

Valentine was first found by a Federal Census in Dunkerd Township of Greene County, Pennsylvania, in 1800. With his last name spelled *Ikelberry*, Valentine recorded two males, ages 10-16; two males, 16-26; one male, 45 and up; one female, 10-16; two females, 16-26; and one female, 45 and up.

Ten years later he was still in Greene County. The household contained one male, age 16-26; one male, 45 and up; one female, 1-16; and one female, 45 and up.

Wayne Township of Greene County was home when the 1820 census was taken. Valentine was the one male, age 45 and up, in the household with two females listed, one in the 16-26 bracket and the other in the 45 and up bracket.

Throughout his census listings, Valentine gave his occupation category as agriculture.

Like many of the German-heritage people in Pennsylvania, Valentine was a member of the German Reformed Church.

Valentine died at his home in Wayne Township in 1827. His will, dated Nov. 15, 1822, is on file in Greene County.

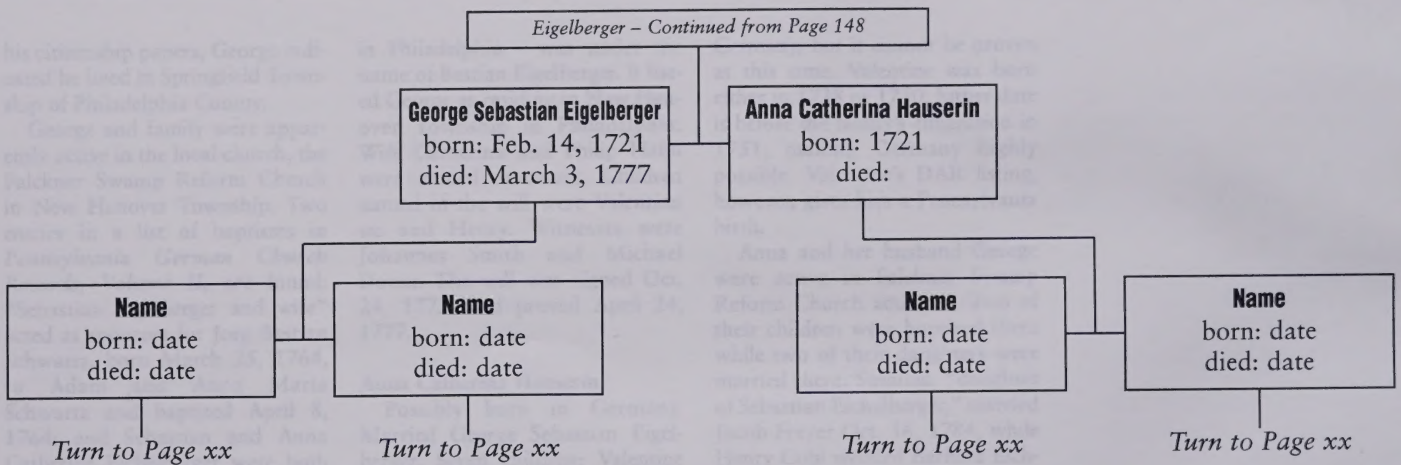
(E)lenora

Maiden name unknown. Married Valentine Eichelberger Sr. Nine children: Henry Eichelberger – born *around* 1765; William Eichelberger – born *around* 1769; John Henry Eichelberger – born Aug. 4, 1771/died *around* 1850; Jacob Eichelberger – born April 12, 1775/died 1857; David Eichelberger – born *around* 1778; Catherine Eichelberger – born *around* 1781/died 1862; Valentine Eichelberger Jr. – born *around* 1782/died *around* 1860; George Boston Eickleberry; and Abraham Eickleberry – born April 1, 1788/died Jan. 19, 1884.

It is believed all of the children were born in Pennsylvania although only John's Philadelphia (Montgomery County) birth is documented at this time; that birth was mentioned in records from New Hanover Lutheran Church in New Hanover Township of Montgomery County.

With the exception of son Henry, all of the children died in either Ohio or present-day West Virginia (it was part of Virginia back then). For his part, Henry must have followed (E)lenora and her husband to Greene County, Pennsylvania, because he died there as well.

Some confusion exists over (E)lenora's first name. Some sources list it as *Elenora* while others drop the *e* to spell it *Lenora*.



Biographies

George Sebastian Eigelberger

Probably born in Germany. Married Anna Catherina Hauserin. Seven children.

According to one posting – Darlene Melton on April 18, 1998 – on the USGenForum Internet (usgenforum.familytreemaker.com) Eichelberger bulletin board, George was the son of Rudolph Eigelberger of Germany.

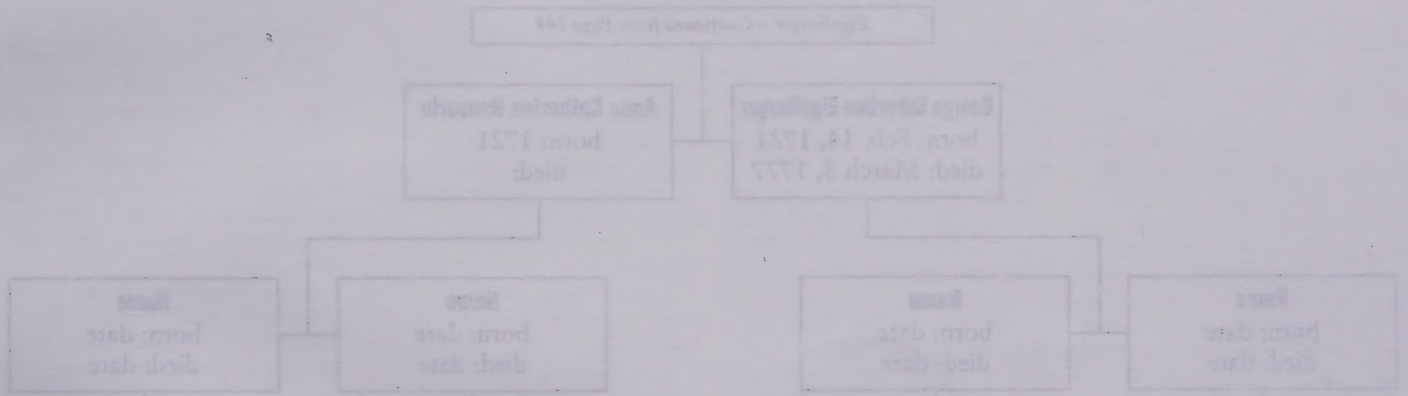
George emigrated to America in 1751, arriving in the Port of Philadelphia aboard the ship *Brothers*, commanded by Captain William Muir. The ship originated in Rotterdam and carried 200 passengers of German, Swiss, Dutch and French extraction. Among them was one Görg Bastian Eigelberger.

George apparently stayed in the Philadelphia area for the rest of his life. Five of his seven children were born there; the birthplaces of his other two children are unknown. Furthermore, George died in the area as well. All of these events happened in New Hanover Township of Montgomery County.

It is not known if he and Anna married in the "Old Country" and emigrated together or met and married in America. Just on the basis of name, Anna certainly was Germanic, like George. The key is in the birthplaces of the first two children: If one or both were born in Germany, as some sources claim, George was married prior to his emigration; if not, the marriage occurred in Pennsylvania.

Older members of the Eickleberry family recall hearing how the family was Dutch – and quite proud of their heritage. George's journey originated from Rotterdam, Holland. However, it is unknown if George was from Holland or Germany.

Sometime between Sept. 26, 1765, and Nov. 10, 1766, George became a naturalized citizen. On



his citizenship papers, George indicated he lived in Springfield Township of Philadelphia County.

George and family were apparently active in the local church, the Falckner Swamp Reform Church in New Hanover Township. Two entries in a list of baptisms in *Pennsylvania German Church Records, Volume II*, are found: "Sebastian Eigelberger and wife" acted as sponsors for Jorg Bastian Schwartz, born March 25, 1764, to Adam and Anna Maria Schwartz and baptized April 8, 1764; and Sebastian and Anna Catherine Eichelberger were both parents and sponsors of John Henrich, born Oct. 27, 1762, and baptized Dec. 4, 1763.

Anna Maria Schwartz must have been some relation as her child was named after George and he was acting as the child's sponsor.

Two of George's daughters – Susanna and Barbara Eichelberger – were married at the Falckner Swamp Church and listed in *Pennsylvania German Marriages*, compiled by Donna R. Irish.

George died March 3, 1777, and was buried two days later in the Falckner Swamp Cemetery. His will – in File 31, Book R, page 43 in Philadelphia – was under the name of Bastian Eigelberger. It listed George as residing in New Hanover Township in Philadelphia. Wife Catherina and Philip Hahn were named executors. Children named in the will were Valentinn *sic* and Henry. Witnesses were Johannes Smith and Michael Dotter. The will was signed Oct. 24, 1772, and proved April 24, 1777.

Anna Catherina Hauserin.

Possibly born in Germany. Married George Sebastian Eigelberger. Seven children: Valentine Eichelberger Sr.; Maria Margaret Eigelberger – born *around* 1752 or 1753; John Peter Eigelberger – born Aug. 28, 1754; Anna Catharine Eigelberger – born May 4, 1760; John Heinrich Eigelberger – born Oct. 27, 1762; Susanna Eigelberger – born *around* 1765; and Maria Barbara Eigelberger – born March 20, 1771. Married John Clayfield March 18, 1779. No children.

With the exception of Valentine, all of the children were born in New Hanover Township of Montgomery County, Pennsylvania.

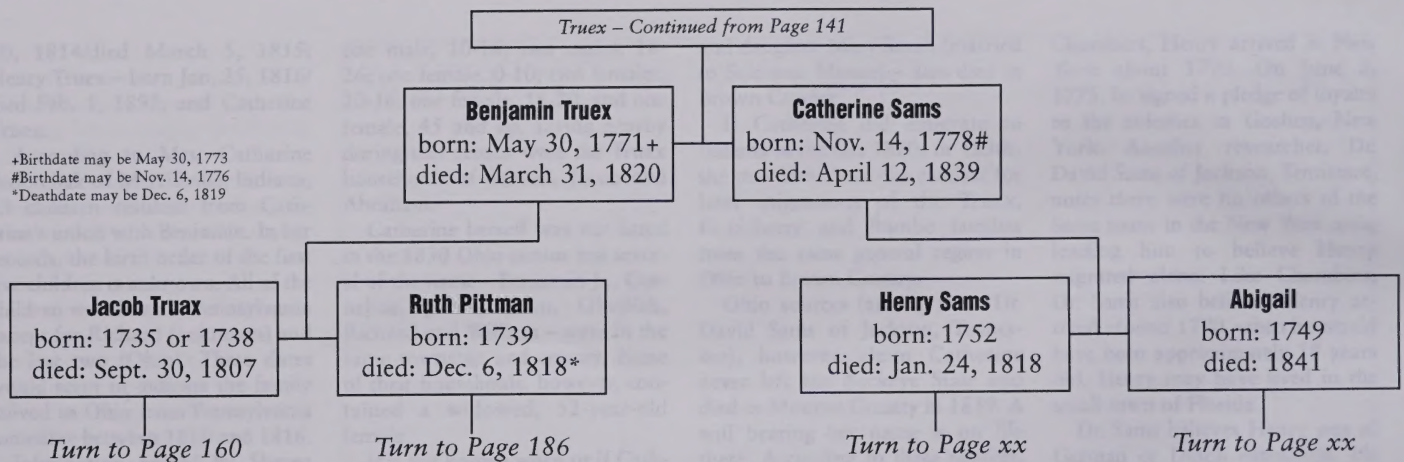
Some records suggest Valentine and daughter Maria were born in Germany, but it cannot be proven at this time. Valentine was born either in 1738 or 1750. Either date is before the family's emigration in 1751, making Germany highly possible. Valentine's DAR listing, however, gives him a Pennsylvania birth.

Anna and her husband George were active in Falckner Swamp Reform Church activities. Two of their children were baptized there while two of their daughters were married there. Susanna, "daughter of Sebastian Eichelberger," married Jacob Freyer Oct. 16, 1784, while Henry Cohl wedded Barbara Eichelberger, "daughter of Sebastian, deceased," Sept. 18, 1791.

Following husband George's death in 1777, Anna remarried two years later. Reverend Nicholas Pomp performed the Falckner Swamp Church ceremony between Anna and John Clayfield.

Anna's exact deathdate is unknown but came sometime after 1800. She and John were recorded by the U.S. Census in New Hanover Township. Both were listed in the 45-year-and-up category. No other individuals lived in the household.

Neither were found in the census of 1810.



Biographies

Ruth Pittman

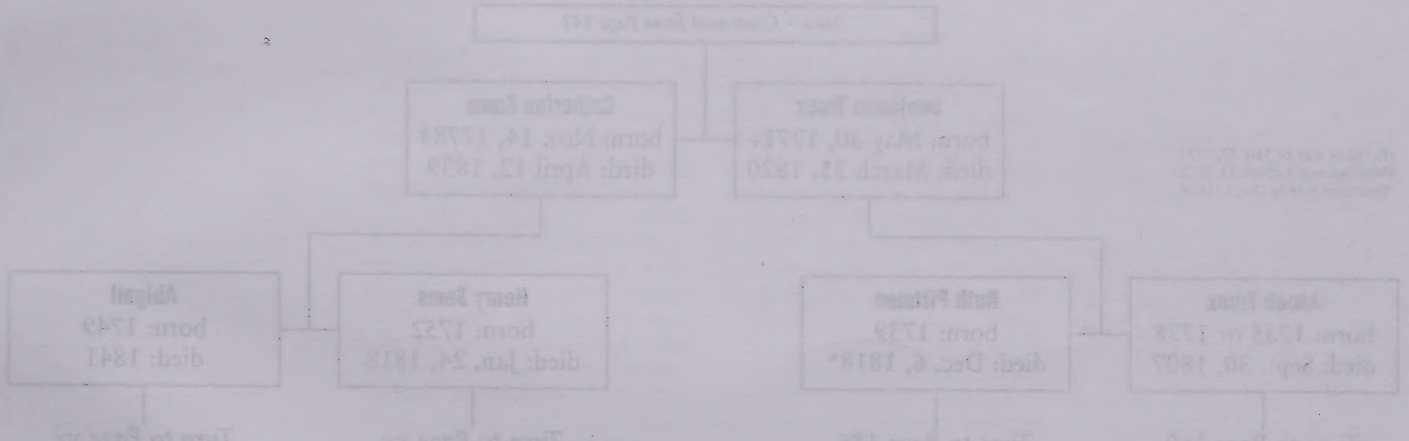
First child of Richard Pitman and Charity Truax. Married Jacob Truax Nov. 3, 1769, in Bedford County (Belfast Township), Pennsylvania. Nine children: Richard Truax – born Feb. 5, 1762/died Dec. 8, 1855; Bethenia Truax – born Jan. 1, 1765/died March 8, 1833; Jacob Truax Jr. – born Oct. 10, 1767/died Feb. 20, 1845; Charity Truax – born June 28, 1771/died May 5, 1841; Benjamin Truex – May 30, 1773/died March 31, 1820; Sarah Truax – died 1850; Ruth Truax – born 1777/ died *after* 1850; John Truax – born Sept. 5, 1779/died Sept. 14, 1850; and Mary Truax – born April 5, 1783/died Oct. 6, 1852.

Four of the children were born in Pennsylvania: Charity (Fayette County), Benjamin (Cumberland) and Ruth and Mary (county unknown). Birthplaces for the remaining children are unknown.

Ruth died in Bedford County; she was buried in Sidling Hill Cemetery.

Catherine Sams

First child of Henry Sams and Abigail, maiden name unknown. Born in Orange County, New York. Married Benajmin Truex April 13 (or 17), 1795. Thirteen children: Abraham Truex – born Sept. 9, 1792; Abigail Truex – born March 29, 1796; Joseph Truex – May 29, 1800; Mary Sarah Truex – born March 15 (or Feb. 13), 1798/died April 9, 1861; Benjamin Truex (Jr.) – born May 29, 1800/ Dec. 26, 1869; Susannah Truex – born June 3, 1802/died Aug. 28, 1881; Obediah Truex – born Jan. 18 (or 17), 1805/died Jan. 9, 1864; Rebecca Truex – born March 1, 1807; Ruth Truex – born July 10, 1810 (or 1809); Richard Truex – born July 1, 1812/died May 2, 1859; Phoebe Truex – born Sept.



30, 1814/died March 5, 1815; Henry Truex – born Jan. 25, 1816/ died Feb. 1, 1892; and Catherine Truex.

According to Mrs. Catharine Fedorchak of Merrillville, Indiana, 13 children resulted from Catherine's union with Benjamin. In her records, the birth order of the first five children is unknown. All of the children were born in Pennsylvania except for Richard (unknown) and the last two (Ohio). These dates would seem to indicate the family moved to Ohio from Pennsylvania sometime between 1810 and 1816.

Information posted by Sharen Chambers on her Internet Web site (www.eoni.com/~soultone), however, gives very different dates for the children. Her records list Pennsylvania birthplaces for Joseph and Obediah; and Ohio for Abigail, Mary Sarah (Belmont County), Benjamin Jr. (Muskingum County) and Henry. Birthplaces for the remaining children were unknown.

Catherine was found in Sunsberry Township of Monroe County for the 1820 Ohio census. She was listed because husband Benjamin had died earlier in the year (only heads of household were recorded by the census). That household contained two males, ages 0-10; one male, 10-16; two males, 18-26; one female, 0-10; two females, 10-16; one female, 16-20; and one female, 45 and up. Living nearby during this census were the Truax households of Samuel, Jacob and Abraham.

Catherine herself was not listed in the 1830 Ohio census but several of the name – Benjamin Jr., Cornelius, Jacob, John, Obediah, Richard and William – were in the same township and county. None of their households, however, contained a widowed, 52-year-old female.

It is not known when or if Catherine emigrated to Indiana. Brown County, Indiana, records list her as buried in New Bellesville Cemetery. Five limestone markers bearing the Truex name are besides her; one of those markers has "C.T." inscribed on it. Two offspring, Henry and Susannah (married to John L. Truex), are also buried there, but not immediately next to Catherine's plot. A Matilda Truex (born Nov. 15, 1845/died Sept. 2x, 1871) is also buried in the cemetery but, due to the dates, would be a grand-daughter to Catherine at best. Four other children – Obediah, Richard, daughter Catherine (married to Martin Eickleberry) and daughter Mary Sarah (married to Solomon Moore) – also died in Brown County.

If Catherine did emigrate to Indiana in the late 1820s or 1830s, she may have been the catalyst for later migrations of the Truex, Eickleberry and Rambo families from the same general region in Ohio to Brown County.

Ohio sources (among them Dr. David Sams of Jackson, Tennessee), however, claim Catherine never left the Buckeye State and died in Monroe County in 1839. A will bearing her name is on file there. According to these sources, Catherine was buried at the Harmony Baptist Cemetery in Beallsville (Sunsberry Township in Monroe County).

Some early documents give Catherine with both the *LAMS* and *SAMSs* last names.

Henry Sams

Born in either Germany, Bedford County, Pennslyvania, or the small town of Florida in Orange County, New York; Germany is the most likeliest choice. Married Abigail, maiden name unknown, Sept. 26, 1775, in Orange County. Seven children.

According to researcher Sharen Chambers, Henry arrived in New York about 1770. On June 8, 1775, he signed a pledge of loyalty to the colonies in Goshen, New York. Another researcher, Dr. David Sams of Jackson, Tennessee, notes there were no others of the Sams name in the New York area, leading him to believe Henry migrated alone. Like Chambers, Dr. Sams also believes Henry arrived around 1770, when he would have been approximately 18 years old. Henry may have lived in the small town of Florida.

Dr. Sams believes Henry was of German or Dutch extraction. He thinks the name *SAMS* was an Americanized version of several possible German/Dutch surnames: *SAAM*, *SAMIS*, *SAUM* or *SALM*. Besides *SAMS*, other spellings in America include *SONGS* and *PSALMS*.

Later census data for daughter Susannah Sams indicated her father (Henry) was "foreign-born."

Henry took to his new country, however, even serving in the Revolutionary War. Henry spent 11 days with Hathorn's Regiment of the New York Militia in Captain Blain's Company. For his service, he was paid 19 Shillings and 6.5

Pence.

Later, another of the Sams name – son Abraham – served with U.S. military forces during the War of 1812.

Henry lived in Orangle County for several years. He was found in Warwick Township of Orange County by the 1790 Federal Census. His household consisted of one male over the age of 16 years, four males under the age of 16 years and three females.

Sometime between 1790 and 1795, Henry and the family moved to Bedford County, Pennsylvania. The exact date of the move is unknown; however, the family was definitely in Bedford County in time to see the April 1795 wedding of daughter Catherine Sams to Benjamin Truex.

Tax records in 1798 captured Henry in Bedford County's Belfast Township. Henry was taxed on his 14' x 16' log cabin ($10 value), stable and 100 acres of land ($90 value). Henry's last name was spelled *SONGS*, instead of *SAMS*. This part of Bedford County later became Fulton County.

Again with the *SONGS* spelling, Henry was recorded by the 1800 census still in Belfast Township. His household contained one male,

AN INVENTORY OF THE ESTATE OF HENRY SAMS

item	*value*
1 bay mare	$35.00
1 roan mare	25.00
1 milch cow	20.00
1 two-year-old heffer	15.00
1 two-year-old steer	10.00
1 heffer, a year-old past	5.00
2 sheep	6.00
4 hogs	8.00
4 hogs	5.00
100 lbs pickled pork	8.00
10 bushels potatoes	4.00
5 bushels oats & 1 basket	2.00
30 bushels rye	18.75
10 bushels corn	6.25
4 bushels wheat	4.00
2 bushels flax seed	1.50
4 bushels	4.00
2 acres wheat in ground	2.50
1 acre (?) wheat	6.00
3/4 acre wheat in ground	4.37
1 quantity blax in bundle	5.00
tobacco in hand	1.25
2 pieces upper leather	3.00
1 piece sols leather	1.00
1 hide	3.00
1 sheep skin	.25
1 piece sheep skin	1.00
Note against Abrm. Sams	7.75
Interest on same	3.45
Note against Benj. Truax	35.00
Interest on same	13.47
Note against John Oakes	4.00
Interest on same	1.80

item	*value*
waggon	$20.00
man's saddle	4.00
side saddle	.50
riding bridle	.37
pair of double trees	.75
large wheel	3.75
clevises	1.00
ax	1.50
maddock	1.50
hand saw	1.00
sickle	.37
augur	.40
plane bit	.37
grind stone	2.00
shovel plow and irons	1.00
bar sheer plow and irons	5.00
iron wedge	1.00
pitch fork and dung fork	1.00
scoop shovel	.25
log chain	1.00
bucket old iron and steel	2.50
3/4 lbs. (nails)	.56
pair sheep shears	1.00
broad (?)	.50
(?) sheet	1.50
water buckets	.75
chain	1.00
bushel	.37
meat tub	.75
10 gallon kettles	8.00
whitning pot	1.00
box with some shoe-making tools	.25
Due bill against Abraham Sams	2.33
Due bill against Andrew Sams	2.30

item	*value*
china	$ 1.00
chairs	2.25
chest	1.50
kettle	4.00
iron pot	1.00
buckets	1.00
long pewter dish	1.25
some dishes	9.75
tea kettle	2.00
chair	1.00
basket	.25
1 twilled bag	1.00
2 smoothing irons	1.50
1 shovel and tongs	1.00
15 pounds flour	1.87
1 looking glass	.75
1 spinning wheel	1.50
1 lot woolen yarn	2.87
1 heckle	1.50
1 loom	7.00
3 reeds and 1 pair	4.00
1 keg and dye tub	.25
1 spool rack and 16 spools	(?)
3 lbs. woollin	(?)
1 piece cloth	15.00
12 yards linen	7.81
Sundry articles of clothing	2.50
one coat, hat and shoes	3.50
one large bible	4.00
Land value	400.00
Inventory value (approx)	430.00
TOTAL ESTATE VALUE	830.00

G69446-960097 Richland County, Ohio, Administration Records – pages 32-35 Courtesy of Dr. David Sams / Jackson, Tennessee

AN INVENTORY OF THE ESTATE OF HENRY SAMS

age 16-26; one male, 45 and over; one female, 0-10; and one female, 45 and over.

Belfast Township records continued to list Henry. On June 1, 1802, he purchased a 127-acre farm in the township. Henry owned this farm until Oct. 4, 1810, when county records note its sale.

By the time of the 1810 census, one of the name was in Wayne Township of Greene County, Pennsylvania. However, the relative youth of this individual (born 1765-84 – male between 26 and 45 years of age) seems to postulate son Henry Jr., some other relative or plain coincidence. Abraham Sams was also found in the same township/county for this census and was probably Henry's son. Henry Sr. was more than likely already in Richland County, Ohio. The sale of his farm in Bedford County in late 1810 also tends to suggest he had left for Ohio. Dr. Sams, mentioned earlier, believes Henry left for Ohio sometime around 1812-13.

Henry died in Richland County (Perry Township) in 1818. Dr. Sams points out Henry's funeral may have been the first white funeral in Perry Township.

On March 31, 1818, son Abraham and other heirs signed papers regarding Henry's estate. Both Abraham and the estate were in Richland County. A little over three years later, on Aug. 23, 1821, two other sons, Henry Jr. and William, completed the purchase of their father's land, valued at $400. The land was the East half of the Southwest quarter of Section 33, Township 19, Range 19, in Richland County's Perry Township. A total of seven heirs split the land with wife Abigail retaining a one-third dower interest. On July 17, 1832, Henry Jr. and William sold their shares of the land to brother Abraham. A final settlement of the estate, specifically the land, took place in 1841, apparently when Abigail died, thus releasing her dower rights.

An inventory of Henry's estate is listed on the previous page. As Dr. Sams points out in his work, the inventory shows a farm and a family that was "extremely self sufficient," growing food for both people and livestock. The inventory also does not list any guns, beds or bedsteads; it is unknown if the family didn't own any (very unlikely) or if it was one of the several illegible sections in the estate papers. Dr. Sams also notes the family was wealthy enough to loan money to the children with apparently no attempt to collect on the debts.

There is some speculation Henry had a brother named Andrew.

Much of the information about birthdates, marriages and deaths in the Sams family comes from the Oakes Bible. According to family tradition, this was the original Sams family Bible that was passed on to daughter Susannah, who married John Oakes in 1833. An inventory of Henry's estate in 1818 recorded "one large bible," valued at $4. This would have been an incredible amount for any book at that time. The Oaks Bible is still in the family today.

Benjamin Truex

Fifth child of Jacob Truax and Ruth Pittman. Born in Cumberland County, Pennsylvania. Married Catherine Lams April 13 (or 17), 1795, in Bedford County, Pennsylvania. Thirteen children.

Very little is known about Benjamin as he died before the advent of comprehensive census takings. He only made two appearances in census listings: 1800 and 1810. In the 1800 version, Benjamin was in Bedford County with a household of three males, ages 0-10; one male, 10-16; one male, 26-45; one male, 45 and up; and one female, 16-26. His only other appearance was in the mostly-lost (only the index remains) 1810 recording of Salt Lick Township in Fayette County, Ohio.

That Benjamin was in Ohio seems to be confirmed by Ellen T. and David A. Berry's *Purchasers of Land in Southeastern Ohio, 1800-1840*. As noted in the Berry's book, purchases were made in Monroe County (May 7, 1816) and Belmont County (June 12, 1816) – probably by Benjamin himself – while later purchases in Monroe County (Range 04/Township 04/ Sections 22, 23 and 28 on March 21, 1834, and June 16, 1837) were possibly made by son Benjamin Jr.

The Truex clan, and later the Eickleberry family as well, seemed to be centered around Sunsberry Township in Monroe County. This county is located in the southeastern corner of Ohio, near the Pennsylvania and West Virginia borders. Sunsberry Township was populated between 1805 and 1813 with the original settlement located three-quarters-of-a-mile south of the small town of Beallsville.

Among those first settlers were Benjamin and Jacob Truex (probably his brother). At 28.4 square miles in size, Sunsberry is bounded by Switzerland Township on the east, Adams and Centers townships on the south, Malaga Township on the west and Belmont County on the north. These boundaries were set June 24, 1819.

Benjamin died in Beallsville in 1820; he was buried in Harmony Cemetery there.

In 1854, a petition to partition the Monroe County real estate of Mary Sinclair (deceased) mentioned Martin and Catherine Truex Eickleberry, then living in Indiana, were heirs of Benjamin. Sinclair's maiden name was believed to have been Truex although final proof is lacking. It is known Benjamin *DID* have daughters with the names Mary and Catherine. That Catherine was married to Martin Eickleberry and living in Indiana (Brown County to be exact) around 1854 is also fact. However, daughter Mary died in 1861; thus, this Mary must have been some other heir of Benjamin.

Jacob Truax

Third child of Larue Jacob Truax and Rebecca Abigail Stillwell. Born in New Jersey (or Bedford County, Pennsylvania). Married Ruth Pittman Nov. 3, 1769, in Bedford County's Belfast Township. Nine children.

Two of the name were found in Bedford County for the 1790 Federal Census. The first's household contained one male over the age of 16 years, one male under the age of 16 years and one female. Two males over 16, two males under 16 and four females were found in the second household. Others of the same last name – Benjamin, a pair of Samuels, Joseph, Phillip, John and Stilve – were found living nearby and were probably relation of some kind.

Jacob was still in Bedford County for the 1800 census. His Belfast Township household consisted of one male, age 0-10; one male, 45 and up; and one female, 45 and up. Nearby lived sons Jacob Jr. and Benjamin (probably listed as Benjamin Jr. because Jacob's brother Benjamin may have been in the area) as well as father-in-law Richard Pittman.

Jacob died in Bedford County (today part of Fulton County) in 1807. His will – written Feb. 24, 1803, and proved Oct. 27, 1807 – is on file there.

Abigail

Born in America, exact location unknown; as Abigail was married in New York, it is possible she was from there. Married Henry Sams Sept. 26, 1775, in Orange County, New York. Seven children: Catherine Sams; William Sams – born Nov. 15, 1778/died *after* March 19, 1853; Henry Sams Jr. – born March 26, 1781/died Nov. 28, 1846; Abraham Sams – born March 4, 1784/died *after* 1846; Susannah Sams – born March 25, 1786/died Aug. 23, 1870; Andrew Sams – born March 8, 1789/died Jan. 31, 1833; and Mary (or Polly) Sams – born Aug. 27, 1797/died *after* 1850.

Later census data for daughter Susannah indicated her father was "foreign-born" while her mother was not.

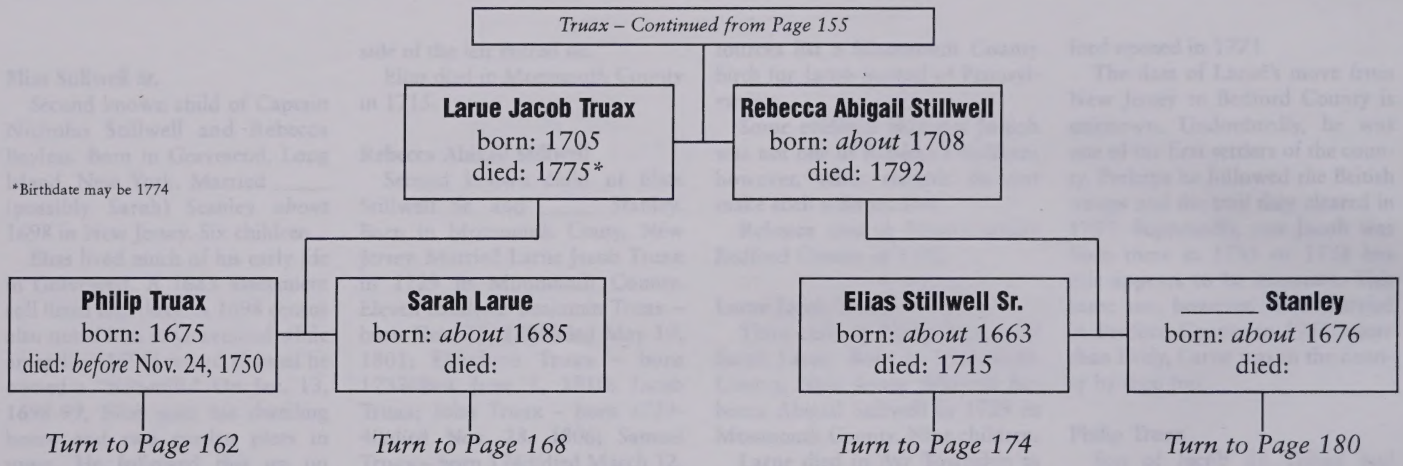
The first six children were born in Orange County, New York, while the last (Mary or Polly) was born in Richland County, Ohio.

Abigail lived the rest of her life in Richland County's Perry Township, where the family moved around 1810. Her husband's estate noted she retained one-third dower interest in the land he owned, which passed to the children upon his death in 1818. Tax records also recorded Abigail in Richland County in 1825.

She may have been living with son Abraham in Richland County during some of her last years. Abraham's 1840 Federal Census listing showed a female in the age 80-90 bracket.

Abigail probably died in Richland County in 1841. Leading many to believe this is the fact that husband Henry's estate was finally settled in court. As Abigail owned one-third dower interest in her husband's land, she would have had to relinquished that interest (through death) in order for the land to be sold by the other heirs.

Much of the information about birthdates, marriages and deaths in the Sams family comes from the Oakes Bible. According to family tradition, this was the original Sams family bible that was passed on to daughter Susannah, who married John Oakes in 1833. An inventory of Henry's estate in 1818 recorded "one large bible," valued at $4. This would have been an incredible amount for any book at that time. The Oaks Bible is still in the family today.



Biographies

Sarah Larue

First known child of Abraham Larue and Marie Magdeline Gille. Born in Monmouth County, New Jersey. Married Philip Truax about 1703 in Monmouth County. Four children: John Truax – born *about* 1700/died April 14, 1778; Phillip Truax – born *about* 1704/died *before* Nov. 24, 1750; Larue Jacob Truax; and Samuel Truax – born *about* 1715/died 1790.

Sons John, Phillip and Larue were born in Monmouth County. It is likely Samuel was also born in Monmouth County. John (died in Freehold (still in Monmouth County) in 1778.

Sarah's death date and burial location are unknown.

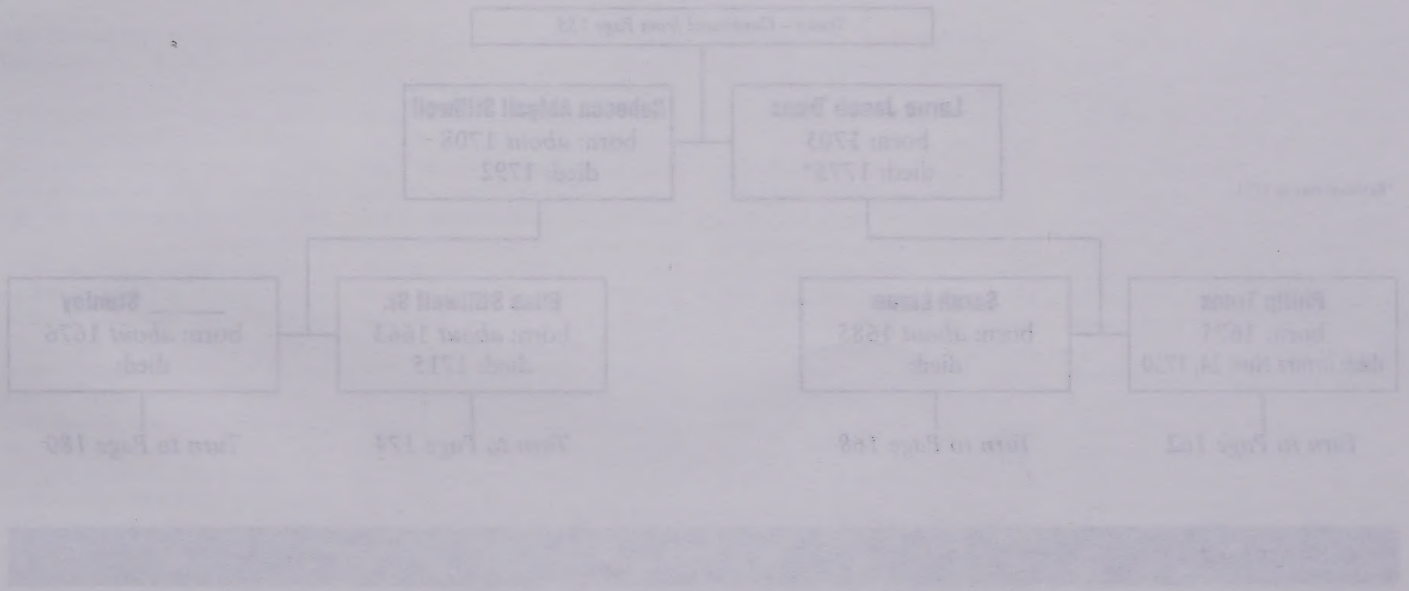
_____ Stanley

First name is possibly Sarah. Married Elias Stillwell Sr. *about* 1698 in New Jersey. Six children: Nicholas Stillwell – born *after* 1699; Rebecca Abigail Stillwell; Elias Stillwell Jr. – born 1708; Sarah Stillwell – born 1725/died April 4, 1812; Jeremiah Stillwell; and Richard Stillwell.

Elias Jr., Rebecca and Sarah were born in Monmouth County, New Jersey, and died in Bedford (now Fulton) County, Pennsylvania. The rest of the children were born in New Jersey, county unknown.

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints (LDS) Family History Center records list this individual's parents as Richard Stanley and Sarah Cottrell. However, Cottrell was born in 1681, making it impossible to have a child in 1676. Those same LDS records give a 1700 birth and 1717-18 death for Stanley, which is even more outlandish for the 1676 birthdate.

Based on this information, all links detailed on page 180 must be considered suspect.



Elias Stillwell Sr.

Second known child of Captain Nicholas Stillwell and Rebecca Bayless. Born in Gravesend, Long Island, New York. Married _____ (possibly Sarah) Stanley *about* 1698 in New Jersey. Six children.

Elias lived much of his early life in Gravesend. A 1683 assessment roll listed him there. A 1698 census also noted him in Gravesend while an earlier (1696) record showed he owned a "tide-mill." On Jan. 13, 1698-99, Elias sold his dwelling house and two garden plots in town. He followed this up on March 12, 1698, by selling Lot #13 of two acres on Gisbert Island to Reynier Van Sicken.

It may have been at about this time that Elias moved his family to Monmouth County, New Jersey. At least three of his children were born there and it seems likely he spent his married life there, as well.

Further supporting this idea, Monmouth County records (found in *Historical and Genealogical Miscellany Volume II* by John E. Stillwell) show Elias documented his "ear mar" for livestock on July 24, 1699: "A half penny on the underside of the right ear and a cut in crossways on the under or back side of the left entred *sic.*"

Elias died in Monmouth County in 1715.

Rebecca Abigail Stillwell

Second known child of Elias Stillwell Sr. and _____ Stanley. Born in Monmouth Couty, New Jersey. Married Larue Jacob Truax in 1729 in Monmouth County. Eleven children: Benjamin Truax – born Nov. 25, 1731/died May 10, 1801; Elizabeth Truax – born 1733/died June 5, 1810; Jacob Truax; John Truax – born 1739-40/died Nov. 28, 1806; Samuel Truax – born 1743/died March 12, 1801; Obediah Truax – born *about* 1745/died May 11, 1787; Catherine Truax – born April 9, 1745/died Sept. 10, 1804; Philip Truax – born *about* 1750/died Dec. 20, 1820; Stillwell Truax – born *about* 1752/died May 10,1822; Joseph Truax – born May 15, 1758/died June 25, 1839; and Cornelius Truax.

Birthplaces for the children were: New Jersey – Benjamin (in the town of Middletown in Monmouth County), Samuel (Woodbridge) and Obediah, Catherine, Philip and Joseph (county unknown); and Pennsylvania – Jacob (Bedford County). However, other sources list a Monmouth County birth for Jacob instead of Pennsylvania.

Some evidence indicates Joseph was not one of Rebecca's children; however, other records do not make such a distinction.

Rebecca died in Pennsylvania's Bedford County in 1792.

Larue Jacob Truax

Third child of Philip Truax and Sarah Larue. Born in Monmouth County, New Jersey. Married Rebecca Abigail Stillwell in 1729 in Monmouth County. Nine children.

Larue died in Ayr Township in Bedford County, Pennsylvania.

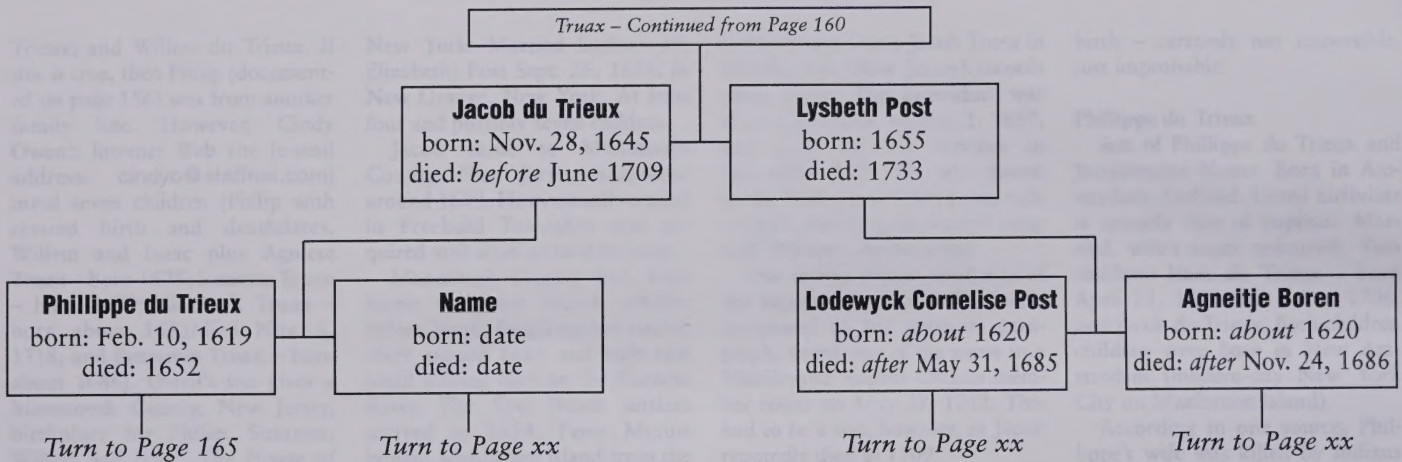
Bedford County is located in central Pennsylvania on its southern border with Maryland. The first whites in this area settled around 1730 with the first known house built by trader John Patton in 1738. Robert MacRay established Raystown in 1750; the name of the town was changed to Bedford in 1766 upon its surveyment by John Lukens. British troops cleared a trail from Carlisle, Pennsylvania, to Raystown in 1757 then built Ford Bedford one year later. The county was officially formed in 1771 and the first public road from Cumberland, Maryland, to Bedford opened in 1773.

The date of Larue's move from New Jersey to Bedford County is unknown. Undoubtedly, he was one of the first settlers of the county. Perhaps he followed the British troops and the trail they cleared in 1757. Supposedly, son Jacob was born there in 1735 or 1738 but this appears to be incorrect. This same son, however, *WAS* married in Bedford County in 1769; more than likely, Larue was in the county by then too.

Philip Truax

Son of Jacob du Trieux and Lysbeth (or Elizabeth) Post. Born in Monmouth County, New Jersey. Married Sarah Larue about 1703 in Monmouth County. Four children.

Jacob died in Upper Freehold in Monmouth County in 1750. Three of his children were definitely born in Monmouth County and it seems highly probable Philip lived his entire life in the county.



Biographies

Agnietje Bonen

Married Lodewyck Cornelise Post in Holland. Six children: Belletje Post – born *about* 1642; Cornelius Post – born *about* 1650/died *after* 1672; Elias Post – born *about* 1650; Wilhelmus Post – born 1652/died April xx, 1703; Lysbeth (or Elizabeth) Post; and Agnietje Post – born 1657.

The first three children were born in Amsterdam, Holland, with the following children born in New Amsterdam, New York. This indicates the family emigrated to the "New World" sometime between 1650 and 1652.

Agnietje died in New Amsterdam sometime after Nov. 24, 1686.

Lodewyck Cornelise Post

Married Agnietje Bonen in Holland. Six children.

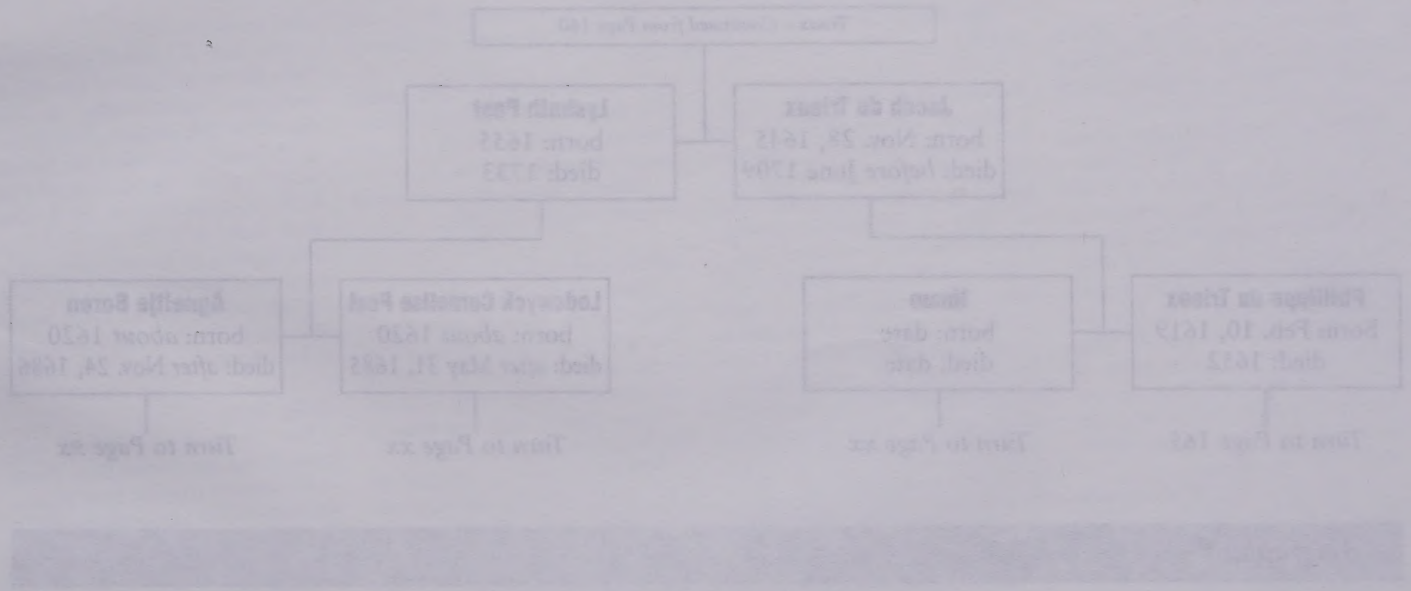
Based on the children's birthdates and locations, Lodewyck and the family must have emigrated from Amsterdam, Holland, to New Amsterdam, New York, sometime between 1650 and 1652.

Lodewyck died in New Amsterdam sometime after May 31, 1685.

Lysbeth (or Elizabeth) Post

Fifth child of Lodewyk Cornelise Post and Agnietje Bonen. Born in New Amsterdam, New York. Married Jacob du Trieux Sept. 26, 1674, in New Orange, New York. Six children: Philip Truax – born 1677/died *before* March 25, 1734; Jacob Truax (twin) – born 1683/died 1761; William (or Willem) Truax (twin) – born 1683/died 1729; John Truax; Isaac Truax – born *about* 1685; and Rebecca Truax.

According to the Internet's www.clester.simplenet.com/indv site, Lysbeth and Jacob only had four children: Agnietie du Trieux; Susanna du Trieux; Jacob du



Trieux; and Willem du Trieux. If this is true, then Philip (documented on page 156) was from another family line. However, Cindy Owen's Internet Web site (e-mail address: cindyo@staffnet.com) listed seven children (Philip with revised birth and deathdates, Willem and Isaac plus Agniete Truax – born 1675; Susanna Truax – born 1679; Elizabeth Truax – born about 1681/died Nov. 5, 1718; and Benjamin Truax – born about 1686). Owen's site gives a Monmouth County, New Jersey, birthplace for Philip, Susanna, Willem and Isaac. *The House of Truax* webpage (www.apci.net) lists another child – Cornelius, died 1730 – as a product of Lysbeth's marriage with Jacob.

Lysbeth died in Delware. As husband Jacob and children Agniete, Philip and Elizabeth died in New Castle County, Delaware, (according to Cindy Owen), it is possible Lysbeth died there as well.

Jacob du Trieux

Son of Phillippe du Trieux and unknown wife. Born in Amsterdam, Holland, and baptised there five days later (Dec. 2, 1645). Another source, however, claims he was born in New Amsterdam, New York. Married Lysbeth (or Elizabeth) Post Sept. 26, 1674, in New Orange, New York. At least four and possibly seven children.

Jacob came to Monmouth County, New Jersey, sometime around 1680. He eventually settled in Freehold Township and acquired 400 acres of land to settle.

Monmouth County had been home to many Dutch settlers before Jacob. Dutch traders landed there around 1613 and built two small trading forts on the Hudson River. The first Dutch settlers arrived in 1614. Peter Minuit bought Manhatten Island from the Indians in 1624 to add to the colony; by 1632, the colony of New Netherlands stretched from present-day Connecticut to Pennsylvania. In 1664, the British invaded with the Dutch driving them out of the area by 1673. In 1674, the *Treaty of Westminster* gave the area back to the British who divided it into the East and West Provinces of Jersey. In 1683, Monmouth County was formally organized out of East Jersey. [Courtesy of Christina Applegate, USGenWeb Project – Monmouth County, New Jersey.]

Historical and Genealogical Miscellany Volume II by John E. Stillwell mentions a Jacob Truex in Middletown (New Jersey) records many times. This individual was elected constable on Jan. 1, 1697, and paid for his services in November 1698. He was shown on the East Jersey Quit Rents rolls in 1687, paying taxes on 150 acres and 240 acres, respectively.

One source claims Jacob was of the Baptist faith. Stillwell's book, mentioned in the previous paragraph, noted one of the name in a Middletown Baptist Church member roster on May 31, 1712. This had to be a son, however, as Jacob reputedly died in 1709.

Though he settled in Freehold Township, Jacob may have died in Delaware's New Castle County. Other records show him passing away in New Jersey. A family history prepared by Combs Craig Truax for *The House of Truax* Internet webpage (www.apci.net) says Jacob sold his New Jersey land and moved to Delaware around 1708 or 1709.

Some confusion exists over his father. One source claims Jacob was the son of Phillippe, born 1586 in France, not Phillippe, born 1619 in Holland. However, the elder Phillippe would have been 59 years old at the time of Jacob's birth – certainly not impossible, just improbable.

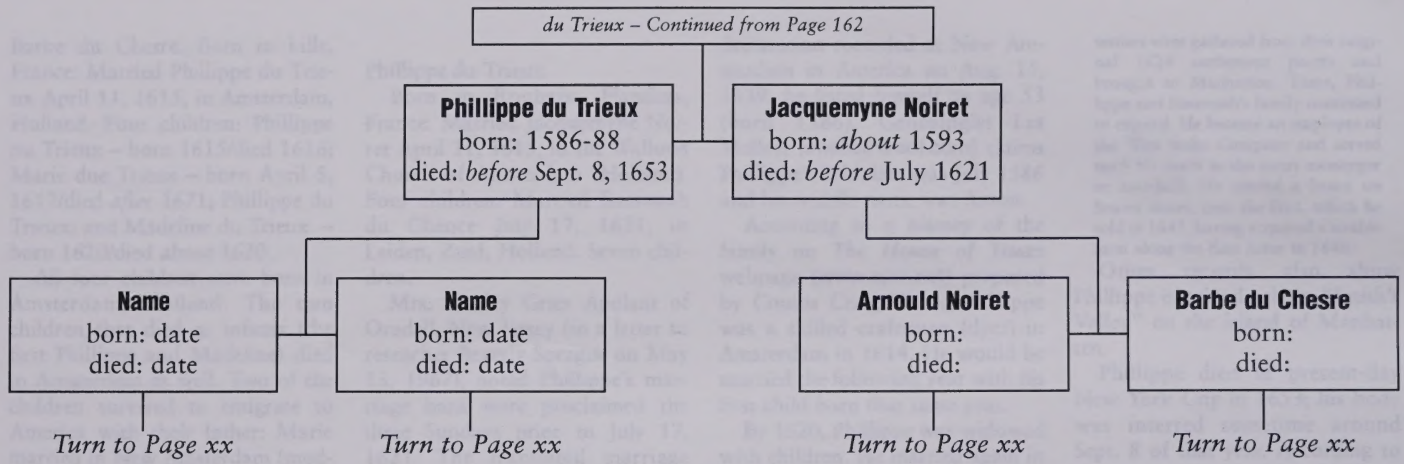
Phillippe du Trieux

Son of Phillippe du Trieux and Jacquemyne Noiret. Born in Amsterdam, Holland. Listed birthdate is actually date of baptism. Married, wife's name unknown. Two children: Isaac du Trieux – born April 21, 1642/died *before* 1706; and Jacob du Trieux. Both children children were born in New Amsterdam (modern-day New York City on Manhatten Island).

According to one source, Phillippe's wife was killed by Indians sometime before Sept. 8, 1653, and it is highly possible Phillippe and his father met the same fate.

Phillippe was a member of the first wave of emigrants to the "New World" in the 17th century, emigrating with his father and step-mother in 1624.

Phillippe died in New Amsterdam, on the island of Manhatten in New York. According to the Combs Truax history, both Phillippe and his father were "killed" in 1652, though by whom it does not say.



Biographies

Susannah du Chesne (or Chence)

Born in Sedan or Robaix, France, in 1601. Married Phillippe du Trieux (his second marriage) Aug. 30, 1621, probably in Amsterdam, Holland, or July 17, 1621, in Leiden, Zuid, Holland. Seven children: Gerome du Trieux – born Oct. 20, 1623/died 1623; Sara du Trieux – born 1624/died Nov. 9, 1692; Susannah du Trieux – born *about* 1628/died 1660-61; Abraham du Trieux; – born *about* 1632/died *about* 1662; Rachel du Trieux – born *about* 1635; Rebecca du Trieux – born *about* 1636; and Issac du Trieux – born *about* 1642/died *before* 1706.

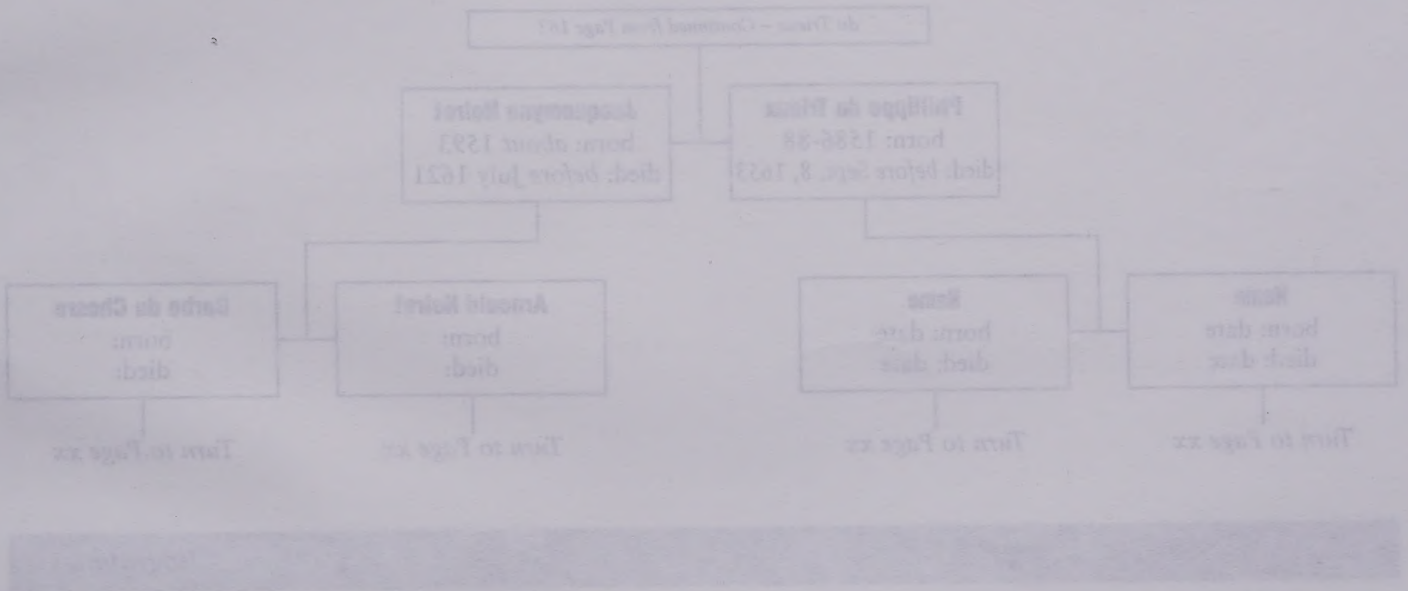
All of the children were born in New Amsterdam, New York, except for Gerome, born and died in Amsterdam. Sara died on Manhatten Island (New York) or Albany, New York, while Susanna and Abraham died in New York's Fort Orange.

Mrs. Stanley Grier Apolant of Oradell, New Jersey (in a letter to reseacher Beverly Sprague on May 13, 1967), noted Susannah's marriage bans were proclaimed the three Sundays prior to July 17, 1621. The translated marriage record reads: "...appeared before the *Comminary of Matrimonial Affairs*, Phillippe du Trieux of Roby, aged 34 and living in the Rambstrate, woodster dyer (widow of Jacquanine Noiret) and Susanna du Chene of Sidan, aged 20, ophan, assisted by Jean Pinson, her cousin, requesting their three Sunday proclaimation."

Susannah emigrated to the "New World" with her husband in 1624. Apolant claims Susannah arrived aboard the *New Netherland* as did her husband Phillippe. Susannah eventually died in 1653.

Jacquemyne Noiret

Daughter of Arnould Noiret and



Barbe du Chesre. Born in Lille, France. Married Phillippe du Trieux April 11, 1615, in Amsterdam, Holland. Four children: Phillippe du Trieux – born 1615/died 1616; Marie due Trieux – born April 5, 1617/died *after* 1671; Phillippe du Trieux; and Madeline du Trieux – born 1620/died *about* 1620.

All four children were born in Amsterdam, Holland. The two children that died as infants (the first Phillippe and Madeline) died in Amsterdam as well. Two of the children survived to emigrate to America with their father: Marie married in New Amsterdam (modern-day city of New York on Manhatten Island) around 1649-50 then died in Schenectedy, New York, while Phillippe died in New Amsterdam.

One source lists Sarah du Trieux (born 1624) as a child of this marriage. Others, however, say Sarah was a result of Phillippe's (Sr.) second marriage with Susannah du Chesne (or Chence)

Jacquemyne died sometime before July 1621 in Leiden, Holland, three years before her husband emigrated to the New World. Her death may have been from complications from the birth of daughter Madeline).

Phillippe du Trieux

Born in Roubaix, Flanders, France. Married Jacquemyne Noiret April 11, 1615, in the Walloon Church of Amsterdam (Holland). Four children. Married Susannah du Chence July 17, 1621, in Leiden, Zuid, Holland. Seven children.

Mrs. Stanley Grier Apolant of Oradell, New Jersey (in a letter to reseacher Beverly Sprague on May 13, 1967), noted Phillippe's marriage bans were proclaimed the three Sundays prior to July 17, 1621. The translated marriage record reads: "...appeared before the *Comminary of Matrimonial Affairs*, Phillippe du Trieux of Roby, aged 34 and living in the Rambstrate, woodster dyer (widow of Jacquanine Noiret) and Susanna du Chene of Sidan, aged 20, ophan, assisted by Jean Pinson, her cousin, requesting their three Sunday proclaimation."

Three different dates exist for Phillippe's birthdate due to varying ages given on court documents. At his first wedding in 1615, he gave his age as 27 years, which would place his birth in 1588. At his second marriage ceremony, he listed his age as 34 years (1587). In a declaration recorded at New Amsterdam in America on Aug. 15, 1639, he listed himself as age 53 (born 1586). Genealogist Les Mellott (lmellott@aol.com) claims Phillippe's brithdate was July 1586 and his middle name was Anton.

According to a history of the family on *The House of Truax* webpage (www.apci.net) prepared by Combs Craig Truax, Phillippe was a skilled craftsman (dyer) in Amsterdam in 1614. He would be married the following year with his first child born that same year.

By 1620, Phillippe was widowed with children. He married again in 1621 with a child born in 1623.

Phillippe and his second wife obtained a Certificate of Transfer "pour Westinde" from the West India Company on March 9, 1624. A profitable fur trade had developed in America and the Company was looking for permanent settlers for a trading and military presence there. Phillippe, his family and 29 other mostly-Walloon families departed The Netherlands at the beginning of April 1624 on the ship *New Netherland*; they arrived in present-day New York in mid-May of that same year.

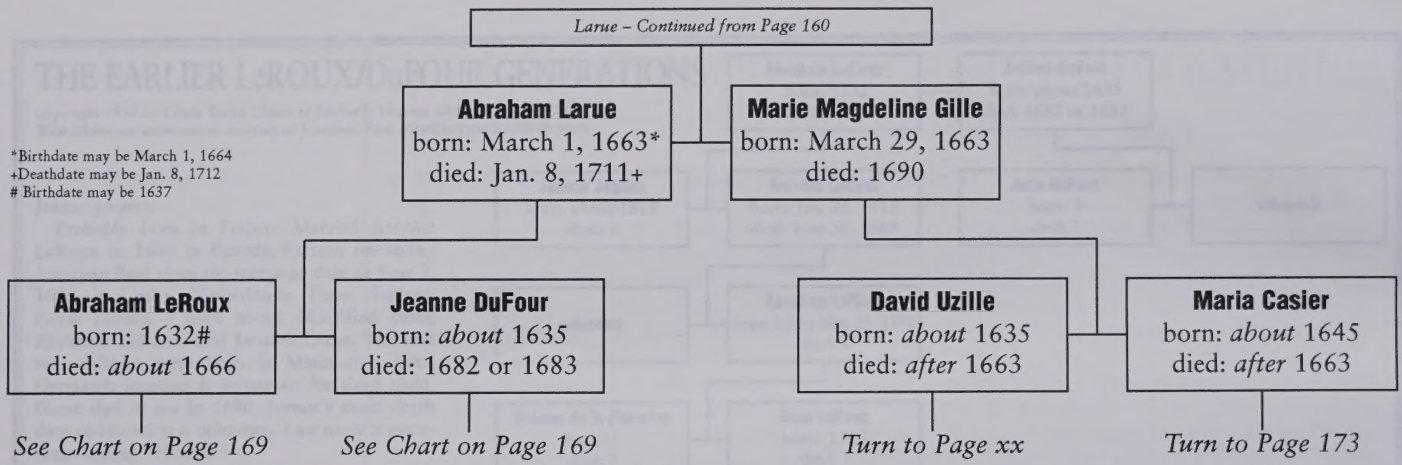
According to the Truax history: Upon the purchase of Manhatten Island in 1626, all Dutch and Walloon settlers were gathered from their original 1624 settlement points and brought to Manhatten. There, Phillippe and Susannah's family continued to expand. He became an employee of the West India Company and served until his death as the court messenger or marshall. He owned a home on Beaver Street, near the Fort, which he sold in 1643, having acquired a sizable farm along the East River in 1640.

Other records also show Phillippe obtained title to "Smith's Valley" on the island of Manhatten.

Phillippe died in present-day New York City in 1653; his body was interred sometime around Sept. 8 of that year. According to the Truax history, both Phillippe and his son of the same name were "killed" there in 1652, though by whom it does not say.

Walloons, of which Phillippe was a member, were people mostly of Celtic stock who lived in northeastern France (an area today part of Belgium). They were mostly French-speaking Protestants, converting to their faith around the time of the Reformation. It should be noted the area where the Walloons lived was under Spanish rule at that time with the era marked by bloodshed, repression and great loss of life. To avert this grim life, many Walloons emigrat-

ed to England or The Netherlands, which had recently declared its independence from Spain. The du Trieux family and other Walloons settled mostly in Leiden and Amsterdam. Holland provided freedom (both religious and civil) and provided employment for the skilled Walloon artisans, of which Phillippe was a member.



Biographies

Maria Casier

Daughter of Phillip Casier and Marie d'Taine. Born in Calais, France. Married David Uzille, possibly in Germany. At least two children: Marie Magdeline Gille; and Peter Uzille – born 1659.

Both children were born in Mannheim, Paltz, Germany.

Maria, her husband and family emigrated to the "New World" sometime after Marie's birth in 1663. Maria (and husband David) died in New Amsterdam, New York, sometime after that.

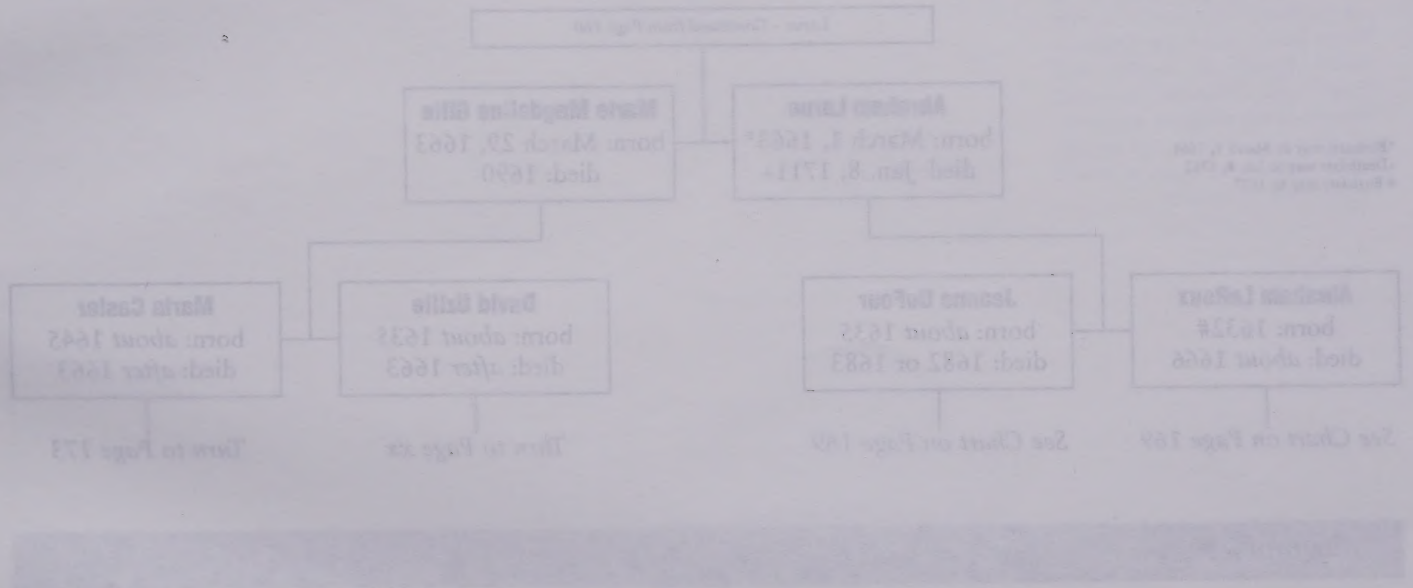
Son Peter was alive as late as 1698. A Kings County (Brooklyn), New York, census from that year listed him, his wife and four children in the town of Boswick. This county was created in 1683; most settlements in this county were Dutch but Brooklyn was considered English. As no notation was entered by his name, Peter was considered Dutch.

Jeanne DuFour

Daughter of Jean DuFour and unknown wife. Born in Armentiers, France. Married Isaac Fremour sometime before 1658. No information on children. Married Abraham LeRoux Dec. 6, 1658, in Mannheim, Paltz, Germany. Four children: Jeanne Larue – born Oct. 19, 1660; Marie Larue – born 1662; Abraham Larue; and Anne Larue – born 1665. Married Louis de France April 17, 1667, in Mannheim. No information on children.

All of the known children were born in Mannheim. Christenings for the children, as recorded by genealogist Jonathan Paul, were: Jeanne on Oct. 28, 1660; Anne on Aug. 17, 1665, in the French Reformed Church; and Marie on Oct. 19, 1662, in the French Reformed Church.

Jeanne died in Germany (proba-



THE EARLIER LeROUX/DuFOUR GENERATIONS

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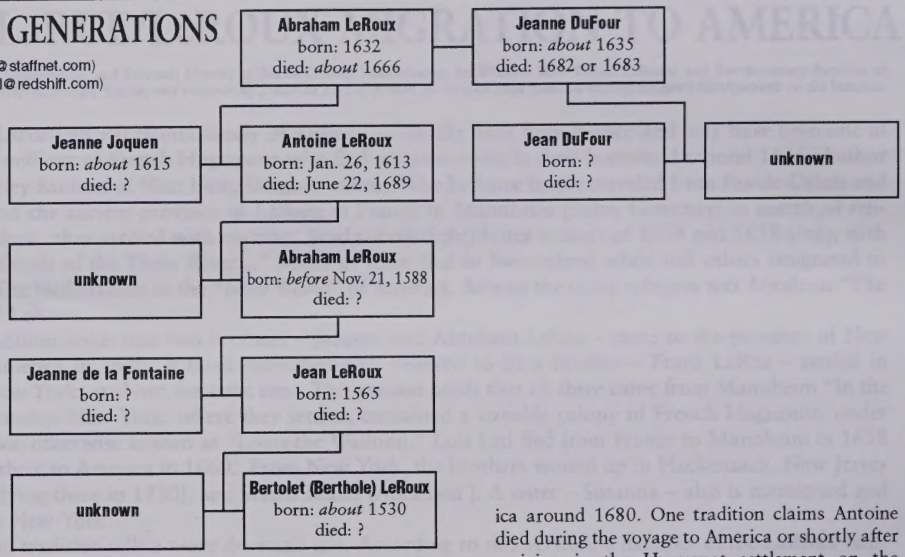
With additional information courtesy of Jonathan Paul (jonathanpaul@redshift.com)



Jeanne Joquen

Probably born in France. Married Antoine LeRoux in 1630 in Picardy, France; researcher Jonathan Paul gives the marriage date as June 3, 1636, in Leiden, Netherlands. Three children: Pierre Leroux – born *about* 1630/died 1680; Abraham LeRoux; and Jacques Larue. The first two children were born in Mannheim, Paltz, Germany; location is unknown for third child. Pierre died at sea in 1680. Jeanne's exact death date and location is unknown. Last name is sometimes spelled "Hoquet."

Jean DuFour

Birth and death dates and locations are unknown. Married, wife's name unknown. Only known child of this union was Jeanne DuFour, born about 1635 in France. Name is certainly French.

Jeanne de la Fontaine

Birth and death dates and locations are unknown. Married Jean LeRoux Aug. 7, 1585, in Frankenthal, Germany. Two known children: Abraham LeRoux (twin); and Sussane LeRoux (twin).

Abraham LeRoux

Born in Heidelberg, Germany. Date given is day of christening in Heidelberg. Records indicate Abraham and twin sister Sussane were baptized by Barthole LeRoux, grandfather. Married, wife's name unknown. Two children: Antoine LeRoux; and Pierre LeRoux – born *about* 1608. Son Pierre was born in France, possibly Calais.

Antoine LeRoux

Born in Leiden, Netherlands, in 1613, or Lalloeu, France, in 1611. Married Jeanne Joquen (or Hoquet) in 1630 in Picardy, France, or June 3, 1636, in Leiden, Netherlands. Three children. Married Marie Fremeau Jery (widow of Jean Fremeau) May 16, 1655, in Mannheim, Paltz, Germany. One child (Isaac). Married Catherine Oliver May 7, 1655, in Mannheim. No information on children. Supposedly emigrated to America around 1680. One tradition claims Antoine died during the voyage to America or shortly after arriving in the Huguenot settlement on the Hudson River in New York. Another tradition claims he lived until 1689 before dying in the Hudson River settlement.

Bertolet (Berthole) LeRoux

Birth and death dates and locations are unknown. Married, wife's name unknown. Only known child of this union was Jean LeRoux, born 1565.

Jean LeRoux

Birth location unknown. Married Jeanne de la Fontaine Aug. 7, 1585, in Frankenthal, Germany. Two known children.

bly Mannheim) in 1682 or 1683 although a family tradition claimed she emigrated to America in 1680 (see inset on right).

Alshe(or Olshe) Gerritsen

Born April 14, 1672, on New York's Staten Island to Gerrit Gerritszen and Annetie Harmens. Married Joshua Cresson. Two children: Elizabeth Cresson; and Rachel Cresson. Married Abraham Larue (his second marriage) around 1692 in Esophus (Ulster County) or Staten Island (the more likely choice), New York. Five children: Abraham Larue (Jr.) – born 1693/died Feb. 15, 1749 (or 1750); James Larue – born 1695/died April 24, 1771; Daniel Larue – born 1697/died Feb. 1, 1795; David Larue – born 1700/died Jan. 24, 1732; and Isaac Larue – born June 6, 1710/died 1760 (or 1768).

All of the children were born on Staten Island in New York. Abraham died in Trenton, New Jersey. Daniel and Isaac died in Middletown Township of Bucks County, Pennsylvania. James and David passed away in Hopewell (Hunterdon County), New Jersey.

Another source – *A Genealogical and Personal History of Bucks County, Pennsylvania*, by William

THE LaRUE/LeROUX MIGRATION TO AMERICA

Courtesy of A Genealogical and Personal History of Bucks County, Pennsylvania, *by William W.H. Davis;* Colonial and Revolutionary Families of Pennsylvania, *Wilfred Jordan, Editor; and research by Jonathan Paul as posted on his web page found at* http://jpaul.gwdi.com/genweb on the Internet.

The Larue/LaRue/LeRoux family of America originally hails from France and may have been one of the millions of French Huguenots who fled religious strife in their homeland around 1666. Author Shirley Sanford of West Linn, Oregon, writes, "The LeRoux family traveled from Pas-de-Calais and du Nod and the ancient province of Lalloeu in France to Mannheim [Paltz, Germany] in search of religious freedom...they arrived with nothing...[and survived the] bitter winters of 1654 and 1658 along with the super floods of the Thein River...." Many of them fled to Switzerland while still others emigrated to England, The Netherlands or the "New World" of America. Among the many refugees was Abraham "The Emigrant" LeRoux.

One tradition holds that two brothers – Jacques and Abraham LeRue – came to the province of New York in America in 1680. A third individual also believed to be a brother – Franz LeRue – settled in Albany, New York, at about the same time. This version holds that all three came from Mannheim "In the Palz," Germany. New York, where they settled, contained a sizeable colony of French Huguenots under Lois DuBois, otherwise known as "Louis the Walloon." Lois had fled from France to Mannheim in 1658 and from there to America in 1660. From New York, the brothers wound up in Hackensack, New Jersey (Jacques, dying there in 1730), and Staten Island (Abraham). A sister – Susanna – also is mentioned and married in New York.

A second tradition tells a more dramatic tale. According to this version, a member of the LaRoux family fled from France during the reign of Charles IX due to widespread religious persecution. This LaRoux went to Holland and married, with his wife giving birth to two sons and a daughter. Following this, the family migrated to America with the elder LaRoux dying during the voyage and buried at sea. Upon arrival in Rhode Island, the captain demanded payment and attempted to sell the children. The widow rescued the boys with a handspike but could not save her daughter. Of the sons, one went north never to be heard from again while the other, Abraham, went south and had a son named Peter. Interestingly, Antoine LeRoux supposedly died in New York while son Abraham never left Germany. Could this be the two mentioned in this tradition?

According to writer Don Holland Watson of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, in his book *History of the Larue Family*, Abraham "The Emigrant" came to New York on the Dutch ship *DeTrouw* (*Faith*) around 1678. Abraham travelled with his uncle, Pierre LeRoux, his wife and their two children. Pierre died on board the *DeTrouw* and was buried at sea. Abraham, meanwhile, made his home in the Port Richmond (New York) area, married and raised a family.

W.H. Davis – substitutes the name Peter (born March 25, 1688, in Esophus, now Kingston, New York/died 1783 in Frederick County, Virginia) for James. Paul also listed two more children – Esther and Jane – in his work on the family.

According to *Colonial and Revolutionary Families of Pennsylvania* (Wilfred Jordan, Editor), Alshe was married and widowed from Joshua Cresson of Long Island prior to her union with Abraham. No mention is made of children from this first marriage.

Alshe (which some have translated as Alice or Olive) died sometime after 1712.

Alshe's father emigrated to America (probably to New York) in 1658 aboard *The Golden Beaver*. It is unknown if he was already married or took a wife once in the New World.

Marie Magdeline Gille

First known child of David Uzille and Maria Casier. Born in Mannheim, Paltz, Germany. Married Abraham Larue in 1684 in New York. Two children: Sarah Larue; and Peter Larue – born March 17, 1688/died 1783.

Daughter Sarah was born in Monmouth County, New Jersey, while son Peter was born in New York. Peter was baptized March 25, 1688, in the Old Dutch Church of Kingston, N.Y., before witnesses Moyse Degraue and Cornelia Van Den Bosch. Peter later died in Frederick County, Virginia.

Marie died in Kingston in 1690.

Some researchers dispute Marie's parentage, giving her name as *Gillet* (instead of *Gille*). One historian, Don Watson of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, thus lists her as Magdellaine Gillet, born March 29, 1663, in Mannheim to Isaac Gillet and Esther Michee. Magdellaine was christened April 1, 1663, in Mannheim; godparents were Pierre Gillet and Magdellaine Michee. Watson gives Magdellaine and Abraham's marriage date as 1687 in Esopus, Old Ulster (today known as Kingston), New York. Watson agrees with other researchers on names and dates for the two children, Sarah and Peter.

Abraham Larue

Third child of Abraham LeRoux and Jeanne DuFour. Born in Mannheim, Paltz, Germany. Baptized March 6, 1664, with Pierre Scabel as godfather and Elizabeth Collier as godmother. Married Marie Magdeline Gille in 1684 in New York. Two children. Married Alche "Olive" Gerritsen about 1692 in Esophus (Ulster County), New York. Five children.

The date of Abraham's emigration from Germany to America is unknown (three versions exist – see the inset on the prior page for more information) but must be before 1684 when he was married in New York.

Colonial records note a conveyance dated Feb. 13, 1688, refer-

HUNTERDON COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

Courtesy of the USGenWeb Internet Project – Hunterdon County, New Jersey (www.co.hunterdon.nj.us/history.htm. Administered by Al Sinclair, njysprez@aol.com)

The area known as Hunterdon County, New Jersey, was originally part of West Jersey's Burlington County. Hunterdon was set off by a General Assembly enactment on March 11, 1714. The new county was named in honor of General Robert Hunter, then-Governor-General of the provinces of New York and New Jersey.

In its initial state, the county was four times as large as it is today. In 1739, one section was partitioned off to form Morris County. Other areas were later taken to form Mercer, Warren and Sussex counties. Two of its original townships – Maidenhead and Hopewell – were later merged into Mercer County in 1838.

The original county seat was Trenton, where the first courthouse was built in 1720. The seat was transferred to Flemington in 1785, where it remains today.

Many residents of Hunterdon County moved to Rowan County, North Carolina, between 1755 and 1765. Earl Granville was recruiting settlers for North Carolina in what eventually came to be known as the "Jersey Settlement." Many of these transplants were Quakers though they later evolved into Baptists.

ring to Abraham owning property in Ulster County, New York. A year-and-a-half later (Sept. 1, 1689), Abraham swore an oath of allegiance to the Governor of New York. On April 5, 1694, Abraham was elected constable of Staten Island; he also was elected April 1, 1706, to the same position for the North Division of Staten Island.

According to author Don Watson, Abraham lived in Port Richmond (New York) until approximately 1706 when he navigated the Raritan River to North Branch, New Jersey. He made his home in Harbourton in Hopewell (or possibly Burlington) Township of Hunterdon County, New Jersey, until his death.

Abraham's will was written Sept. 21, 1702, with he and family still living on Staten Island. Abraham listed himself as a "yeoman." Witnesses were William Tillyer, Francis L'Roe, Louis DuBois and William Grassett. Letters were granted to the widow on June 14, 1712, as all the the above-named witnesses were dead and unable to be found by the court. The will listed the children but not by name.

On Jan. 8, 1712, an inventory of his estate was taken by John Parke and Andrew Smith and sworn to by the widow, who also served as the administrator.

Abraham LeRoux

Son of Antoine LeRoux and Jeanne Anthoine. Born in Mannheim, Paltz, Germany. Christened July 31, 1644, in Mannheim. Married Jeanne DuFour Dec. 6, 1658, in Mannheim. Four children.

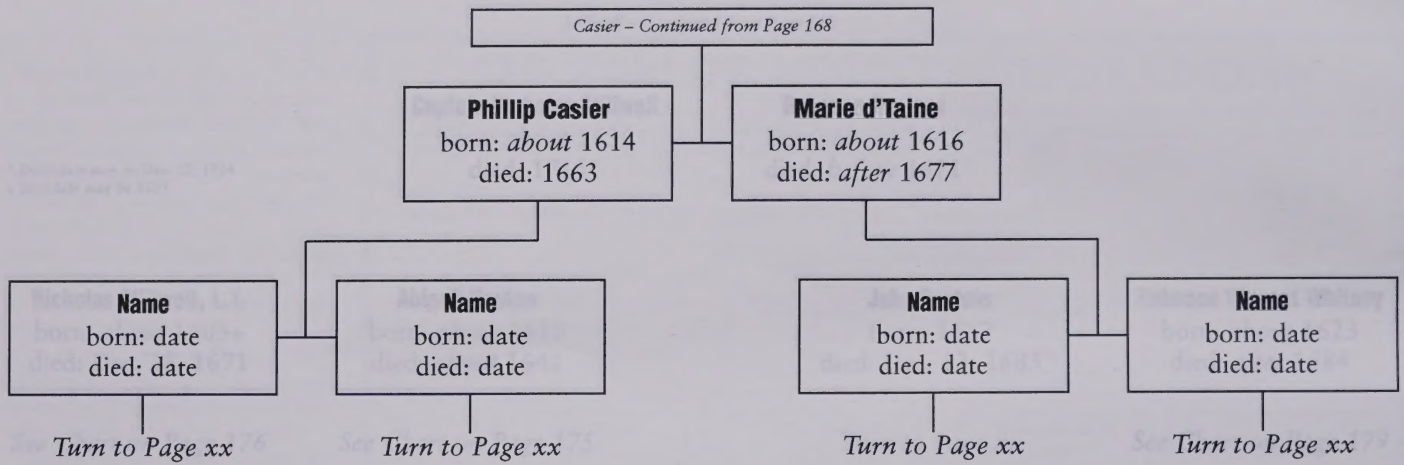
Researcher Jonathan Paul believes Abraham was born in 1637, not 1632.

Abraham nor his wife ever left Germany. Abraham died in Mannheim about 1666 during the Plague while wife Jeanne survived another 16 years before passing away. However, a tradition claims another death date and is noted in the inset on the previous page.

David Uzille

Born in Picardy, France. Married Maria Casier. At least two children, both of whom were born in Mannheim, Paltz, Germany.

Sometime after the birth of their second child in 1663, David and the family emigrated to America. David died in New Amsterdam, New York, sometime after that.



Biographies

Phillip Casier

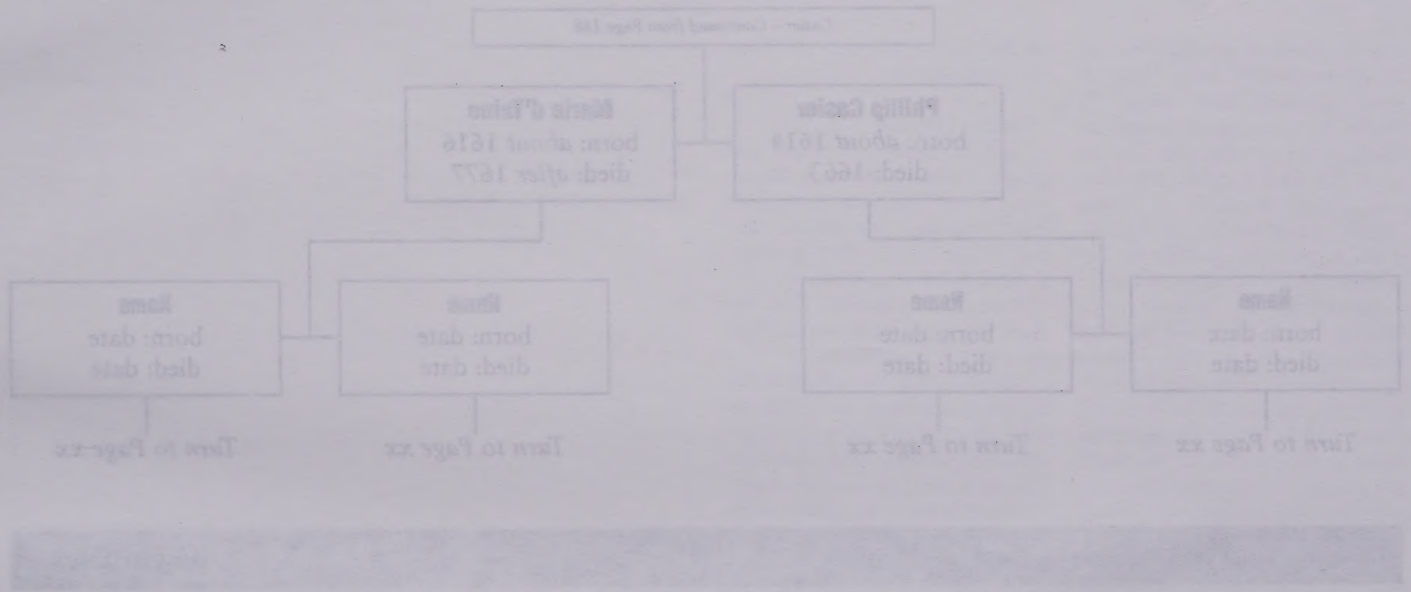
Born in Calais, France. Married Marie d'Taine. This union produced at least one child, Maria Casier, about 1645.

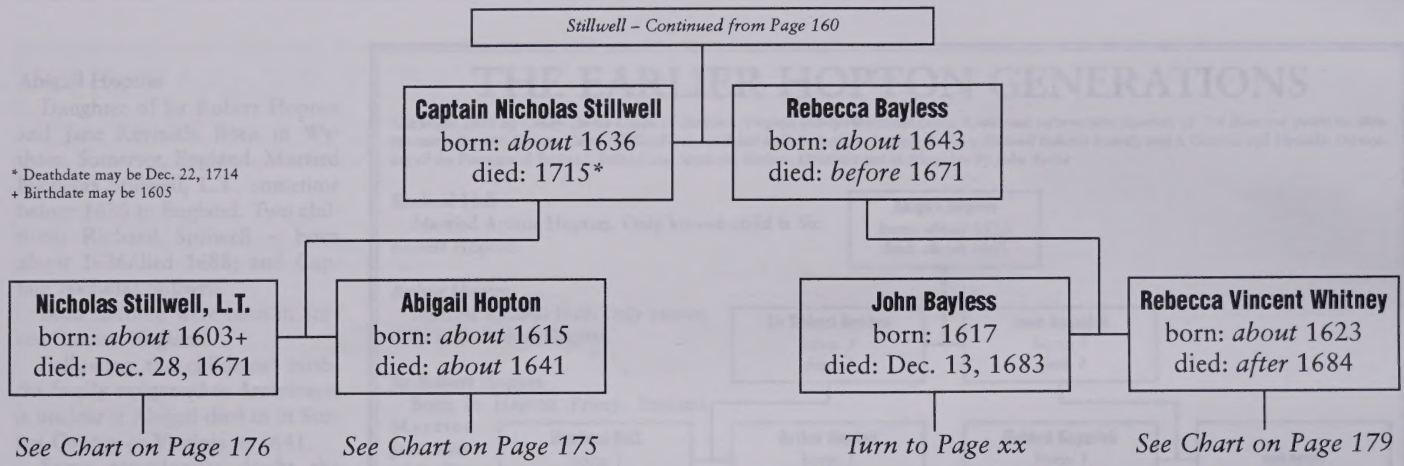
Sometime after the birth of that child, Phillip emigrated to America. He died in Harlem, New York, in 1663.

Marie d'Taine

Born in France. Married Phillip Casier. This union produced at least one child, Maria Casier, born about 1645 in Calais, France.

Sometime after the birth of that child, Marie and her family emigrated to America. She died on New York's Staten Island sometime after 1677.





Biographies

John Bayless

Born in Norwich, Norfolk, England. According to a posting by Doris Lobe on the USGenForum Internet Stillwell Family Forum, son of William Bayles (born before 1590 in England). Married Rebecca Vincent Whitney sometime before 1642. Two children.

It is unknown where John and Rebecca were married. According to Grant Plummer (in a Bayliss Family Forum posting), John came to America on the *True Love*, which left London on June 10, 1635, bound for Bermuda. The posting, however, does not say if the ship continued on to America or if John stayed in Bermuda, coming to America later.

Plummer also claims John was an indentured servant.

John was in America by 1642, however, as son John Jr. was born that year in the town of Jamaica on Long Island, New York.

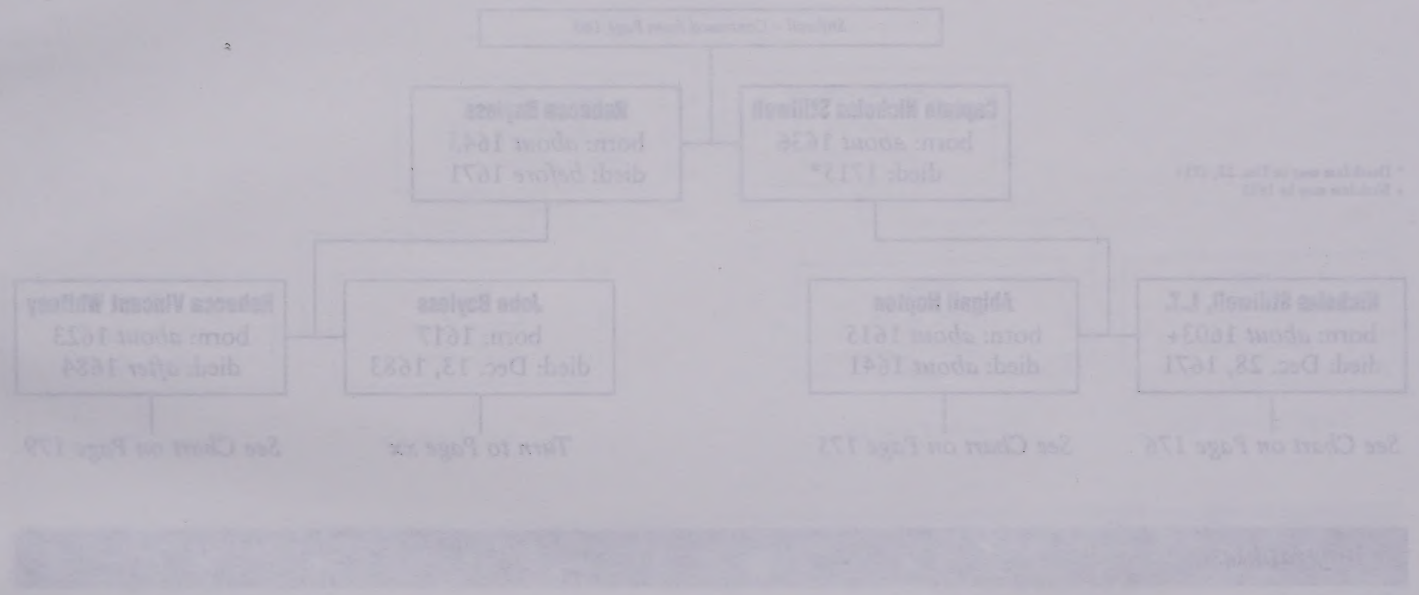
John died in 1682 on Long Island, either in Southold or Rose Row, Jamaica. John's will, dated Oct. 18, 1682, was probated in 1683.

Rebecca Bayless

Second child of John Bayless and Rebecca Vincent Whitney. Born in Bermuda or Guilford, Connecticut (according to researcher Lorretta Curry), although Jamaica, Long Island, New York, is a more logical choice as older brother John Bayless Jr. was born there a year ahead of her. Married Captain Nicholas Stillwell in 1661 in New York. Two children: Nicholas Stillwell (Jr.) – born *about* 1663/died *before* 1734; and Elias Stillwell Sr.

Researcher Ted Brassard also lists a third child – Abigail or Alice – from this union

Rebecca's exact death date is unknown. Curry believes Rebecca died on New York's Staten Island.



Abigail Hopton

Daughter of Sir Robert Hopton and Jane Keymish. Born in Wytham, Somerset, England. Married Nicholas Stillwell, L.T., sometime before 1636 in England. Two children: Richard Stillwell – born *about* 1636/died 1688; and Captain Nicholas Stillwell.

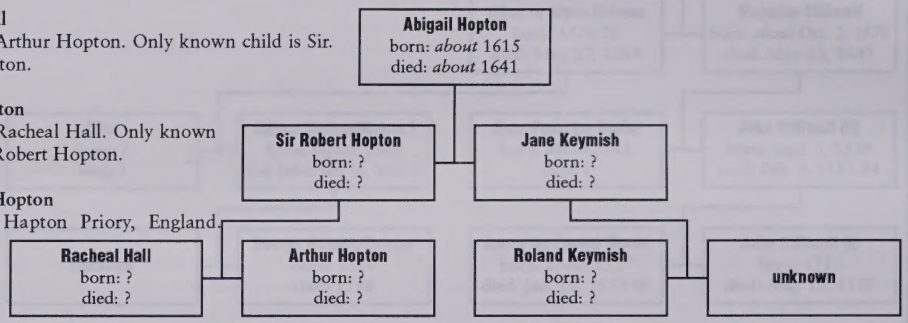
Both children were born in Surrey County, England.

Following the childrens' birth, the family emigrated to America; it is unclear if Abigail died in in Surrey County or Virginia in 1641.

Some genealogists doubt the existence of Abigail, believing instead that Nicholas was only married to Ann(a) Van Dyke. The two sons from this union – Richard and Nicholas – are then positioned as the first two children of that union (which also yielded seven more).

THE EARLIER HOPTON GENERATIONS

Copyright 1998 by Cindy Torres Owen of Stafford, Virginia (cindyo@staffnet.com). *Additional information courtesy of Ted Brassard* (www.nh.ultranet.com/~tbrass); *Loretta Curry (USGenForum Stillwell bulletin board); Doris Lobe (also Stillwell bulletin board); and* A General and Heraldic Dictionary of the Peerages of England, Ireland and Scotland, Extinct, Dormant and in Abeyance *by John Berke*



Racheal Hall

Married Arthur Hopton. Only known child is Sir. Robert Hopton.

Arthur Hopton

Married Racheal Hall. Only known child is Sir Robert Hopton.

Sir Robert Hopton

Born in Hapton Priory, England. Married Jane Kenmish. Only known child is Abigail Hopton, born *about* 1615 in England. Died in Wytham, Somerset, England.

Jane Keymish

Married Sir Robert Hopton. Only known child is Abigail Hopton.

Roland Keymish

Married, wife's name unknown. Only known child is Jane Keymish. Died in Wardry, Monmouth, England.

Captain Nicholas Stillwell

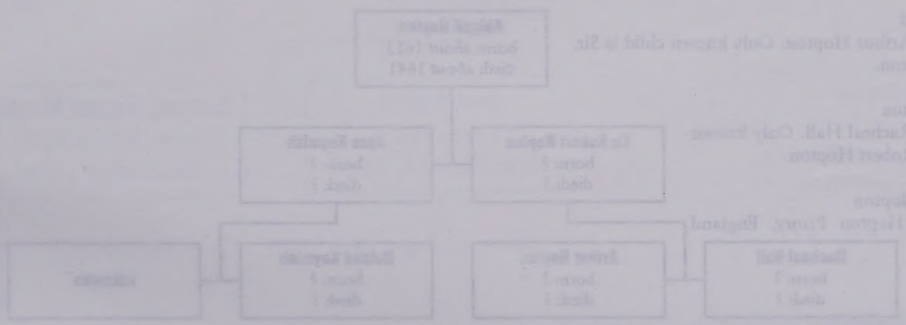
Second child of Nicholas Stillwell, L.T., and Abigail Hopton. Born in Surrey County, England. Married Rebecca Bayless in 1661 in New York, probably on Long Island (Kings County). Two children. Married Catherine Huybert (Dutch for Hubbard) Feb. 6, 1670 (or 1671), in Gravesend, Long Island, New York. No information on children. Married Elizabeth Corwin/Cornell Dec. 6, 1713. No information on children.

Catherine was the widow of Charles Morgan, Nicholas' cousin.

The History of Captain Nicholas Stillwell by Dr. John E. Stillwell shows Nicholas was politically active for many years. In 1664, Nicholas was appointed a Justice of West Riding of Yorkshire, England, under the Duke of York. However, it is believed Nicholas was already in the American colony by then. In 1688, he was commissioned a "Justice of the Quorum" under King James II. One year later, he was granted a similar commission by William and Mary. Both of these commissions were noted in Kings County, Long Island, Clerk's records. In 1691, Nicholas served as a Kings County delegate for the first Colonial Assembly.

Another book – History of Long Island, Volume III by Benjamin F. Thompson – noted an agreement on town boundaries between the

THE EARLIER HOPTON GENERATIONS



THE EARLIER STILLWELL GENERATIONS

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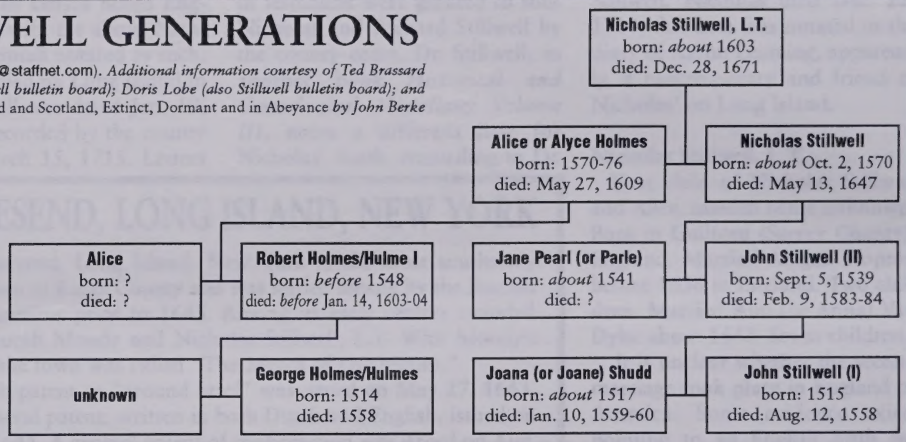


The Stillwell family of Dorking, Surrey, England, dates from the early 16th century with John Stillwell (I) the patriarch of the line. According to author Ted Brassard, the name originates from the peculiar "still-wells" or "high still-wells" near Warborough in Surrey County. Applied to nearby families, the name became "Stillwell." These wells were quite deep, yielding a pure and sparkling water which never froze. In those faroff days well before plumbing, a clean and constant water supply was worth its weight in gold for area families and travelers.

The first of the Stillwell name in America may have been Nicholas Stillwell, L.T., who came to the New World in approximately 1638 and settled on New York's Manhatten Island.

Alice or Alyce Holmes

Daughter of Robert Holmes/Hulme I and Alice, maiden name unknown. Born in Capel, Surrey, England. Married Nicholas Stillwell *about* 1601. Seven children: John Stillwell – born May 14, 1592/died Dec. 26, 1671; Emma Stillwell – born June 5, 1595; Elizabeth Stillwell – born Oct. 2, 1597; Edmund Stillwell – born Sept. 2, 1599; Mabel Stillwell – born 1601; Nicholas Stillwell, L.T.; and Jasper Stillwell – born May 29, 1608/died Nov. xx, 1656. John died in Dover, England, while Jasper passed away in Guilford, Connecticut. Alice died in Dorking, Surrey, England

George Holmes/Hulmes

Possibly born in England. Married, wife unknown. Only known child is Robert Holmes/Hulme I. Died in England.

Robert Holmes/Hulme I

Born in Reddish, Lancashire, England. Married Alice, maiden name unknown, *about* 1572 in Manchester, England. Only known child is Alice Holmes. Died in Chester, Cheshire, England.

Jane Pearl (or Parle)

Born in Dorking, Surrey, England. Married John Stillwell (II) May 26, 1562, also in Dorking. Four children: John Stillwell – born 1562/died 1655; Joan Stillwell – born 1563; Richard Stillwell – born 1565/died 1619; and Nicholas Stillwell.

John Stillwell (I)

Born and died in Collettmoor, Dorking, Surrey, England. Married Joana, married name unknown. Five children. May have been known as John of Collettmoor.

John Stillwell (II)

Born and died in Dorking, Surrey, England. Married Jane Pearl (or Parle) May 24 or 26, 1562, in Dorking. Four children.

Nicholas Stillwell

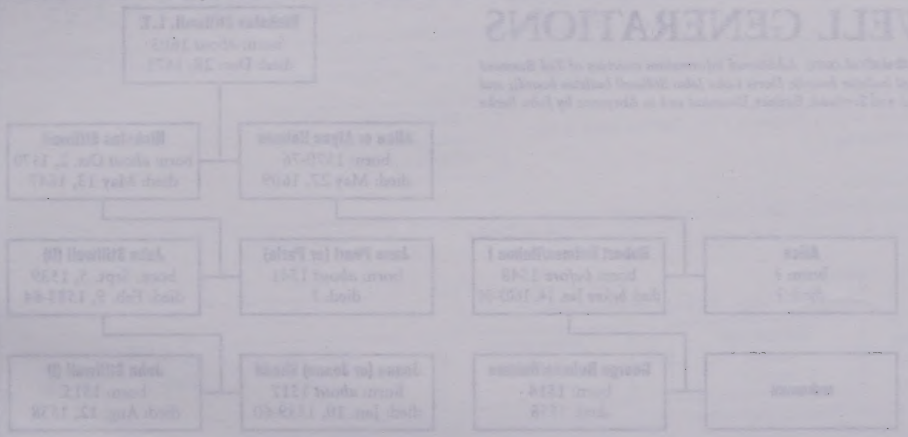
Born in Collettmoor, Dorking, Surrey, England. Married Alice Holmes in 1594. Seven children.

Joana (or Joane) Shudd

Born and died in Dorking, Surrey, England. Married John Stillwell (I), almost certainly in Dorking. Five children: John Stillwell (II); Robert Stillwell – born March 5, 1540 (or 1541); Henry Stillwell – born Feb. 22, 1544 (or 1545); Katheryn Stillwell – born June 24, 1549; and Wynifride Stillwell – born Nov. 8, 1551. All of the children were born in Dorking.

Alice

Maiden name unknown. Married Robert Holmes (or Hulme) I about 1572 in Manchester, England. Only known child is Alice Holmes.



towns of Gravesend and New Utrecht on March 27, 1677. This agreement was confirmed on Sept. 10, 1686, with the signing of a land patent by governor Thomas Dongan. Among the patentees was the name of Nicholas Stillwell. Under the agreement of the land patent, the quit-rent of the land was set at six bushels of winter wheat paid annually on March 20.

The Documentary History of the State of New York - Volume III, by E.B. O'Callagahan, listed a 1698 census for Kings County. In this census, Nicholas was shown in the town of Gravesend with himself, his wife, seven children and one slave. Also nearby was a Jeremiah Stillwell with his wife, four children, one apprentice and two slaves. According to current information, Nicholas only had two children and did not have a brother by the name of Jeremiah. As Nicholas was a historical name in the Stillwell family, the above individual could be a different individual, perhaps a cousin.

It should also be noted Kings County, established in 1683, was primarily a Dutch settlement although it did have English residents. One town in the county – Brooklyn – was considered an English town. The census noted English residents with the above Nicholas and Jeremiah notated as such.

Nicholas died on Long Island in 1715. His will was dated Jan. 19, 1715, and recorded by the county clerk on March 15, 1715. Letters of testament were granted to sons Nicholas and Richard Stillwell by the county court. Dr. Stillwell, in another book *Historical and Genealogical Miscellany Volume III*, notes a different date for Nicholas' death. According to Dr. Stillwell, Nicholas died Dec. 22, 1714; this date was notated in the diary of Aaron Leaming, apparently, a contemporary and friend of Nicholas' on Long Island.

GRAVESEND, LONG ISLAND, NEW YORK

Gravesend, Long Island, New York is the most southernly town of Kings County and was settled mostly by the English sometime prior to 1643. Among its early settlers included Lady Deborah Moody and Nicholas Stillwell, L.T. With Moody's presence, the town was called "The Mecca of Quakerism."

A Dutch patent or "ground brief" was issued on May 27, 1643, with a general patent, written in both Dutch and English, issued on Dec. 19, 1645. A general patent of confirmation was issued on Aug. 13, 1667, fixing the town boundaries. Ten years later, on March 27, 1677, the towns of Gravesend and New Utrecht reached agreement on the boundaries between the two. This agreement was confirmed on Sept. 10, 1686, when Governor Thomas Dongan affixed his signature to yet another land patent.

Most of the town's records were in English and date from around 1645. Despite its English settlers, Gravesend was a lone town in a Dutch colony. It was thus no small coincidence that it was one of the first communities in the Dutch colony to be invaded by English soldiers on Aug. 25, 1664. The English invasion eventually proved successful and the Dutch colony, as well as a Swedish colony to the south, eventually came under English control.

Many of Gravesend's inhabitants later emigrated (about 1645-50) to Vlackle-Bosch, today known as Flatbush, which served as the original seat of justice for Kings County (1658-1832).

Courtesy of Long Island Before the Revolution *by Martha Backee Flint and* History of Long Island – Volume III *by Benjamin F. Thompson*

Nicholas Stillwell, L.T.

First child of Nicholas Stillwell and Alice, maiden name unknown. Born in Guilford (Surrey County), England. Married Abigail Hopton before 1636 in England. Two children. Married Ann (or Anna) Van Dyke about 1642. Seven children.

It is unclear whether the second marriage took place in England or America. Some evidence exists pointing to an English birth for second-wife Ann(a).

Some researchers, including Dr. John E. Stillwell, believe Nicholas was *ONLY* married to Ann(a), with the union occurring in 1640 in Richmond County, New York. If true, then a total of nine children were born to the union.

Equally unclear is exactly when Nicholas emigrated. Both children of the first marriage were born in Surrey County and birthplaces of all save one of his other seven children are unknown. That one – Daniel Stillwell, Esquire – was born in 1653 in New Amsterdam, New York. Additionally, first-wife

GRAVESEND, LONG ISLAND, NEW YORK

THE WILL OF NICHOLAS STILLWELL, L.T.

I Nicholas Stillwell of Staten Island with in the Territoryes of his Royall Highnesse James Duke of York in America, Husbandman being sick and weake in body, but of perfect and sound understanding thanks be rendered to Almighty God for the same, do make and ordaine this my last will and Testament, in manner and form following (vizt.)

Imprimis, I give and bequeath my Soul into the hands of Almighty God who gave it, in hopes to be saved in and thorow ye Passion, merits and mediacon of Jesus Christ, my only Saviour and redeemer, and my Body to the Earth, to be buried in decent and Christian like buriall, according to the discrecon of my Executrix here after named.

Item, I given and bequeath unto my youngest sonn Jeremiah one iron gray mare of about foure yeares old, to run upon the island for his use.

Item, I give and bequeath unto my welbeloved and affectionate wife Ann Stillwell, all my whole Estate, consisting of land, housing, cattle, corne, oxen kine, horses, mares, sheepe, swine, be they of what nature or kind soever, As also all manner of household goods, moveables and immoveables whatsoever lying and being upon Staten Island aforesaid, or elsehwere, Together with all manner of debts whatsoever, and of right belinging unto me; And I do also hereby constitue and appoint my said wife to be my full and Sole Executrix of this my last will and Testament, revoking all wills and Testaments, by mee formerly made; in witness where of I have here unto set my hand and seal the 22th day of December in Anno 1671.

Sealed and delivered in presence of [*MARK*]
A. Meyer, Rich Charlton

GS Microfilm 0514675
Courtesy of Ted Brassard (www.nh.ultranet.com/~tbrass)

Abigail died about 1641, probably in Virginia although another source claims Surrey County. This would place Nicholas' emigration sometime between 1636 and 1641. If this is true, then the second marriage took place somewhere in America (possibly Virginia or New York).

Family researcher Ted Brassard claims Nicholas emigrated from Leiden, Holland, to Manhatten Island around 1638. Whenever his movement occurred, Nicholas was in New York by 1643 at the latest.

Dr. Stillwell, in his *Historical and Genealogical Miscellany Volume IV*, notes Nicholas possessed some military talent. He apparently trained then served over a militia force in a Spring 1643 skirmish with local Indians. Some of his militia later that year defended Lady Moody's Anabaptist settlement in Gravesend so efficiently, they were the only settlement to repulse a Dutch raiding party. In fact, records seem to show the Dutch were beaten badly by the Anabaptist force.

In Dr. Stillwell's book, *Volume III*, Nicholas "of Gravesend" sued Thomas Applegate for slander in 1650. No outcome of the suit was listed.

Land sales for Nicholas are shown in Dr. Stillwell's book, *Volume V*: In 1654 (farm in Gravesend to Thomas Whitlock); May 31, 1660 (house and garden in Gravesend to William Scott); and April 11, 1670 (Lot Number 29 in Gravesend to Whitlock). It is unclear if these transactions were conducted by Nicholas or his son, known as *Captain* Nicholas. The second and third could have been down by the son but it is unlikely the first was as the younger Nicholas would have been approximately 18 years old in 1654.

History of Long Island – Volume III by Benjamin F. Thompson notes a listing of Gravesend inhabitants taken in 1656 included Nicholas. As his son of the same name was only about 20 years old at the time, it is probably the elder Nicholas who was listed. Those on the list were probably not only inhabitants of the town but freeholders as well, Thompson noted in his work.

Nicholas died on New York's Staten Island in 1671. His will (shown on right) named wife Anna his executor. Letters of Administration was granted to Anna on June 17, 1672, by the court.

THE WILL OF NICHOLAS STILWELL, L.T.

Ann (or Anna) Van Dyke

Possibly born in Surrey County, England, about 1618; others give a Dutch birthplace. Married Nicholas Stillwell, L.T. (his second marriage), about 1642. Seven children (as listed by researcher Ted Brassard): Anne Stillwell – born 1643/died 1684; Alice "Abigail" Stillwell – born 1645/died May 19, 1709; William Stillwell – born May 11, 1648/died *about* 1720; Captain Thomas Stillwell – born July 9, 1651/died 1704; Daniel Stillwell, Esquire – born Nov. 13, 1653/died 1719; Mary Stillwell – born *about* 1658/died 1708; and Jeremiah Stillwell – born Oct. 16, 1660/died 1749.

Daniel was born in New Amsterdam, New York, while Brassard gives Gravesend, Long Island, New York, for son William and daughter Alice. Two died in New Jersey: Jeremiah in Monmouth Countyand William in Cape May.

It is unclear whether Ann(a)'s marriage took place in England (where Nicholas was from) or America (where the couple's fifth child was born in 1653). It is no aid her birth location is unknown, as well (although some historians, like Brassard, list England's Surrey County). The couple was definitely in America by 1653 as evidenced by Daniel's birth in New Amsterdam. It is believed husband Nicholas' first wife died in Virginia in 1641. If this second point is correct, Ann(a) and Nicholas' marriage took place in America.

THE EARLIER WHITNEY GENERATIONS

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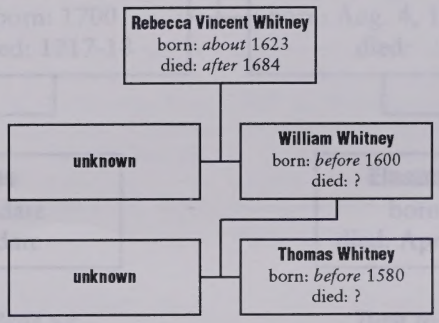


Thomas Whitney

Born in England. Married, wife's name unknown. Only known child is William Whitney, born *before* 1600 in England. No other information.

William Whitney

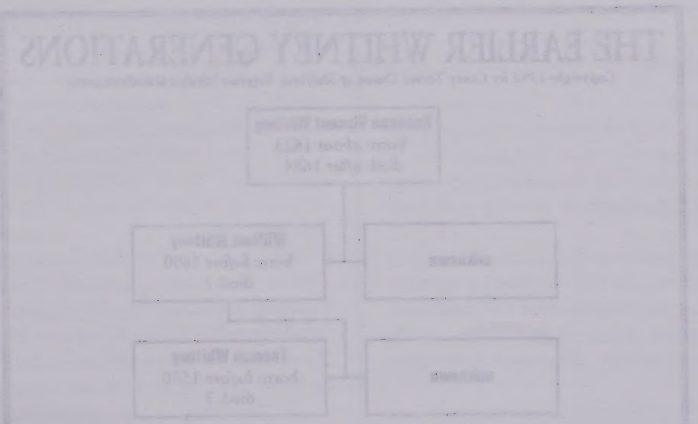
Born in England. Married, wife's name unknown. Only known child is Rebecca Vincent Whitney, born *about* 1623 in England. No other information

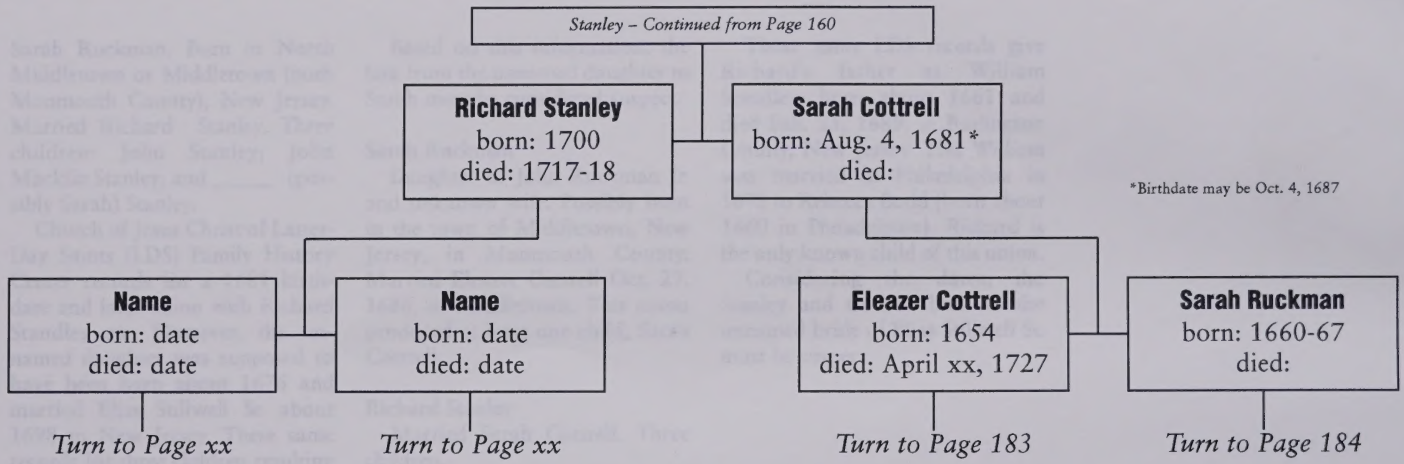
Rebecca Vincent Whitney

Only known child of William Whitney and unknown wife. Born in England. Married John Bayless before 1642, though it is unclear if the ceremony occurred in Bermuda or Long Island, New York. According to researcher Barbara Ribling of Valdosta, Georgia (using *The Bayles Families of Long Island and New Jersey* by Howard Green Bayles as her source), ten children: John Bayless (Jr.) – born 1642/died *about* 1696; Rebecca Bayless; Elias Bayless – born *about* 1645/died *about* 1674; Elizabeth Bayless – born *about* 1646/died 1693; Thomas Bayless – born *about* 1647/died *about* 1689; Jonathan Bayless – born *about* 1650/died *after* 1697; Mary Bayless – born 1654/died 1733; Demaris (female) Bayless – born *about* 1656/died *after* 1682; Abigail Bayless – born *about* 1658/died *after* 1682; and Ruth Bayless – born *about* 1660/died *after* 1682. Married William Hallett in 1684. No information on children.

John Jr. was born in Jamaica on Long Island. It is believed daughter Rebecca was born in Bermuda but this seems unlikely based on John's birth. John died in Washington County, Tennessee's Jonesboro. Birth and death locations for the other children are unknown.

Rebecca died in the town of Jamaica in Queens County, New York, sometime after 1684.





Biographies

Eleazer Cottrell

Son of Nicholas Cottrell and Martha, maiden name unknown. Possibly born in Newport, Rhode Island. Married Sarah Ruckman Oct. 27, 1686, in Middletown (Monmouth County), New Jersey. This union produced at least one child, Sarah Cottrell.

It is unknown when Eleazer moved south from Rhode Island to New Jersey. However, he *WAS* in Monmouth County as early as 1676 (Dec. 1) when he paid a warrant for a survey of lands on Quit Rents there, specifically on 60 acres. One year later (March 6, 1677), he followed this up with a survey for 120 acres. Other surveys were Feb. 11, 1685 (250 acres); Nov. 22, 1685 (100 acres); and Nov. 23, 1685 (130 acres).

The 100-acre plot shown on Nov. 22, 1685, was land originally purchased by John Smith. However, the records (documented in *Historical and Genealogical Miscellany* by John E. Stillwell) seem to show Smith was in arrears on taxes for the acreage. Eleazer picked up the land, apparently on the promise to pay back taxes on the plot.

Taxes on the 100 and 130-acre parcels were paid on March 22, 1687. The amounts paid were 6 Pence and 5 Shillings, 5 Pence, respectively.

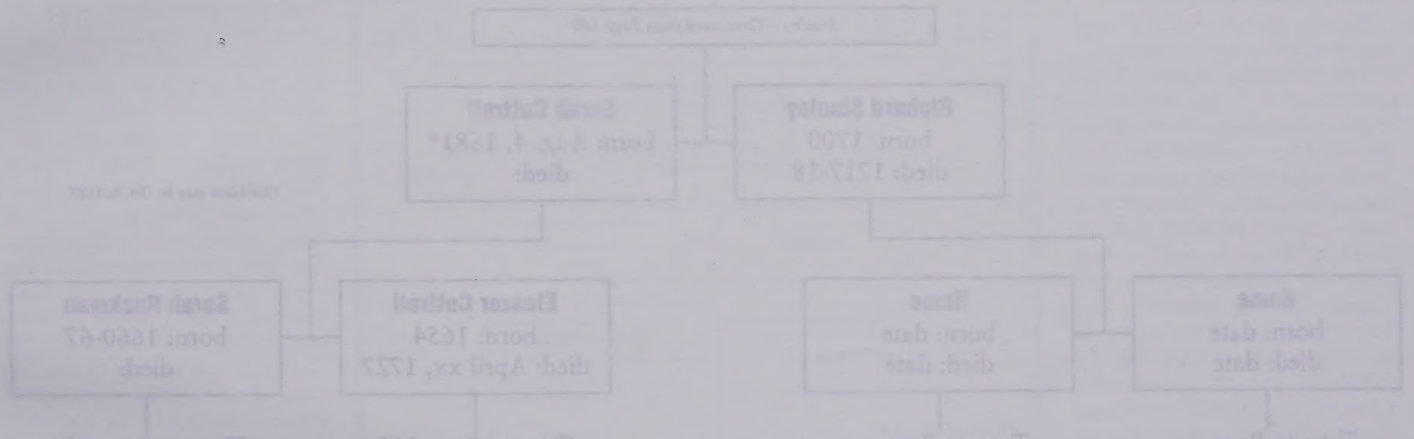
Eleazer's "ear mark" for livestock – one slit in right ear and one on each side of same ear – was noted Feb. 18, 1688, in Monmouth records.

On Jan. 1, 1697-98, Eleazer was chosen the Middletown constable. He refused service, however, and paid a fine on Jan. 8.

Eleazer died in Middletown in 1727.

Sarah Cottrell

Daughter of Eleazer Cottrell and



Sarah Ruckman. Born in North Middletown or Middletown (both Monmouth County), New Jersey. Married Richard Stanley. Three children: John Stanley; John Macklin Stanley; and _____ (possibly Sarah) Stanley.

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints (LDS) Family History Center records list a 1681 birthdate and later union with Richard Standley *sic*. However, the unnamed daughter was supposed to have been born about 1676 and married Elias Stillwell Sr. about 1698 in New Jersey. These same records list three children resulting from this union: Richard Standley (Jr.) – born 1710 or Feb. 14, 1728/ died April 7, 1778; John Standley – born about 1712/died Jan. 25, 1750; and Margretta "Margaret" Standley – born 1720. Richard Jr. was born and died in New Brunswick in Middlesex County, New Jersey, while John was born in Middletown in New Jersey's Monmouth County. If all these dates are correct, then two conclusions may be drawn: 1) the dates for Sarah and her offspring are incorrect and must be much earlier; or 2) Sarah is not the mother of the unnamed individual who married Stillwell in 1698.

Based on this information, the link from the unnamed daughter to Sarah must be considered suspect.

Sarah Ruckman

Daughter of John Ruckman Jr. and unknown wife. Possibly born in the town of Middletown, New Jersey, in Monmouth County. Married Eleazer Cottrell Oct. 27, 1686, in Middletown. This union produced at least one child, Sarah Cottrell.

Richard Stanley

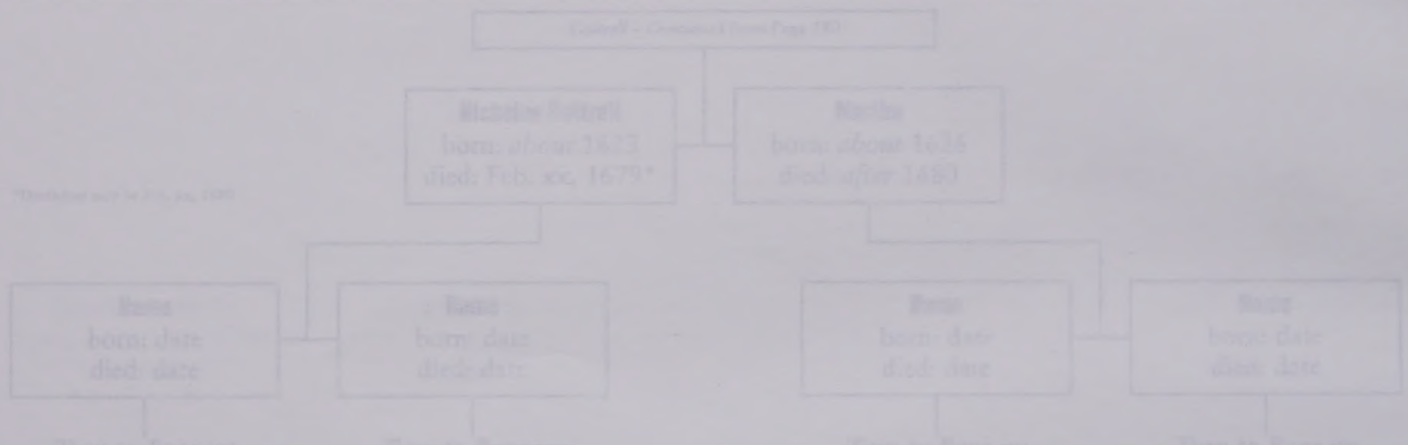
Married Sarah Cottrell. Three children.

One New Jersey record notes the estate of Richard – "late of Middletown, New Jersey, yeoman" – was inventoried Nov. 30, 1714.

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Family History Center records note a Richard Henry Standley *sic*, who was married to Sarah Cottrell. This individual, however, was born too late to be correct. LDS records show this individual was born in 1700 and died in 1717-18 in Middlesex County, New Jersey. As the unnamed daughter from this union was born about 1676 and married Elias Stillwell Sr. about 1698, a 1700 birth is impossible.

Those same LDS records give Richard's father as William Standley, born about 1661 and died Feb. 21, 1689, in Burlington County, New Jersey. This William was married in Philadelphia in 1678 to Rebecca Budd (born about 1660 in Philadelphia). Richard is the only known child of this union.

Considering the dates, the Stanley and Cottrell links to the unnamed bride of Elias Stillwell Sr. must be suspect.


Richelieu Pottrell
born: about 1623
died: Feb. xx, 1679*
Martha
born: about 1635
died: after 1680
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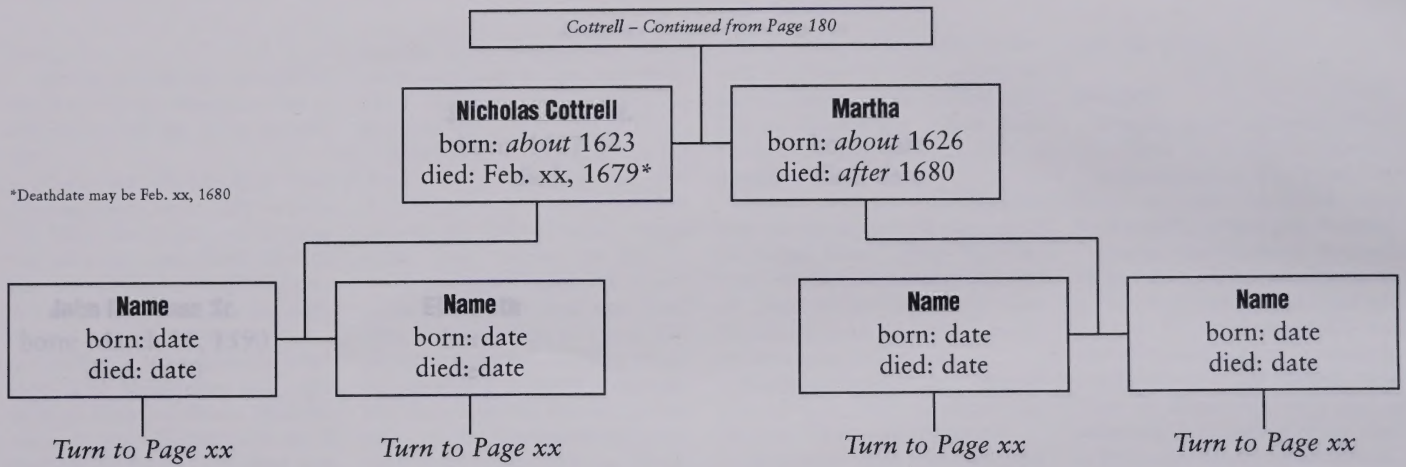


Biographies

Nicholas Cottrell

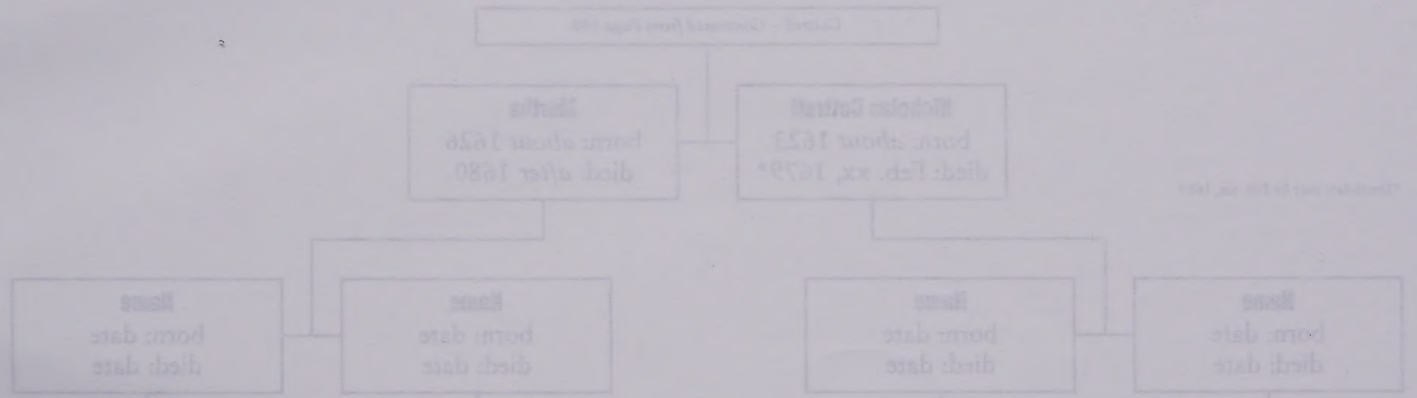
Born in Newport (Newport County), Rhode Island. Married Martha, maiden name unknown, in Newport. At least nine children.

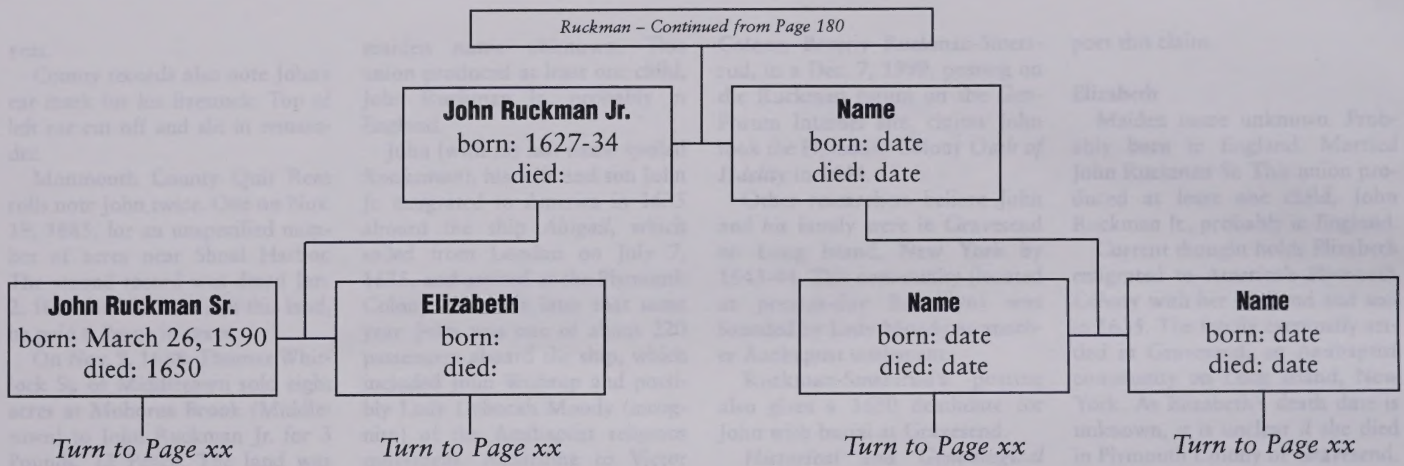
Nicholas apparently lived his entire life in Newport, dying there in 1679 or 1680.

Martha

Maiden name unknown. Possibly born in Newport, Rhode Island. Married Nicholas Cottrell in Newport. At least nine children: Nicholas Cottrell (Jr.) – born 1640 or 1648/died Dec. xx, 1715; Gersham Cottrell – born *about* 1642 or 1654/died 1711; John Cottrell – born 1648/died 1721; Eleazer Cottrell; Jabez Cottrell – born 1656 or *about* 1660; Mary Cottrell – born 1643 or *about* 1656; Hannah Cottrell – born 1646 or *about* 1658; James Cottrell – born 1650 or *about* 1660; and Jabesh Cottrell – born *about* 1662.

Jabez, James, Mary and Gersham were definitely born in Newport. It is likely all of the children were born there although LDS records show a Westerly, Rhode Island, birth for Nicholas Jr. Eleazer died in New Jersey while Gersham died in North Kingston, Rhode Island.





Biographies

John Ruckman Jr.

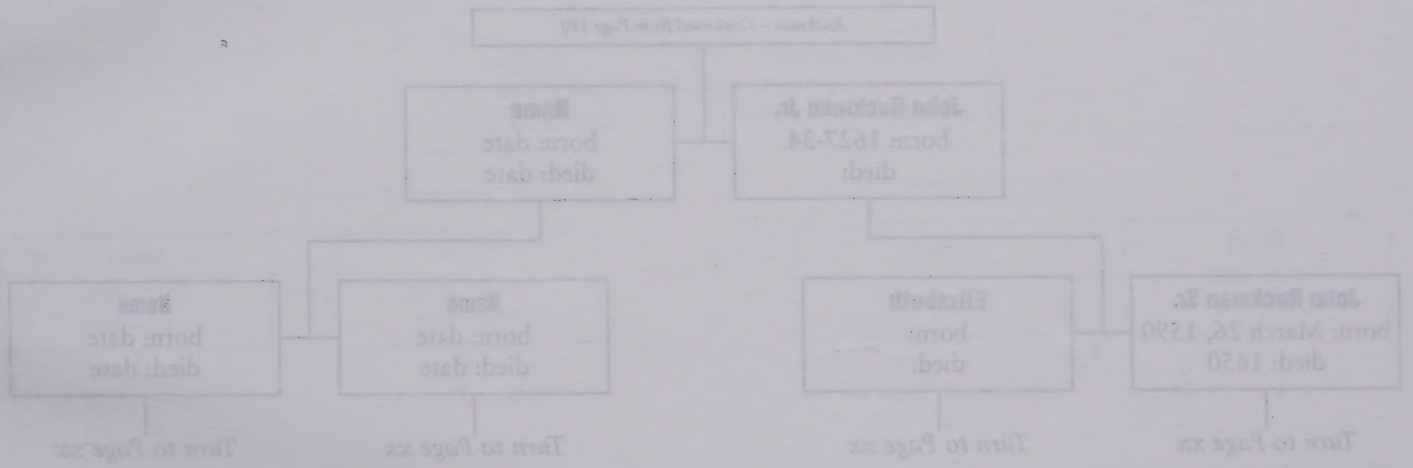
Son of John Ruckman Sr. and Elizabeth, maiden name unknown. Probably born in England. Married, wife's name unknown. This union produced at least one child, Sarah Ruckman, sometime between 1660 and 1667, in New Jersey; a second child, John Ruckman (III), is also possible.

John grew up in Gravesend, Long Island, New York, and must have remained there for a time following his father's death in 1650. Dr. John E. Stillwell, in his work *Historical and Genealogical Miscellany Volume III*, noted two sales of plantations in Gravesend by John: Nov. 11, 1646, to Thomas Applegate (although this sale may have been conducted by his father, John Sr.); and May 3, 1665, to Samuel Holmes.

The journal of James Grover of Gravesend mentions John, as well. Grover, though an Englishmen, was living under Dutch jurisdiction in New Netherlands. On a Dec. 9, 1663, mission to hunt up volunteers for a war with the Esopus Indians, Grover and his group were anchored on a river and saw an English vessel in the bay. Among those on board this vessel was *Jan Rotman* [John Ruckman].

Monmouth County, New Jersey, records note John purchased Lot Number 1 in Middletown on Dec. 30, 1667. Three years later, on May 24, 1670, John exchanged Lot Number 3 in Middletown's Second Division (approximately nine acres) to Daniell *sic* Estall for his Lot Number 32 in Middletown's First Division (also nine acres).

John also served the county in appointed positions. On May 23, 1669, he was chosen to assist in laying out the "meadows" within Middletown. On July 7, 1677, he served as a fence viewer for one



year.

County records also note John's ear mark for his livestock: Top of left ear cut off and slit in remainder.

Monmouth County Quit Rent rolls note John twice. One on Nov. 19, 1685, for an unspecified number of acres near Shoal Harbor. The second record was dated Jan. 2, 1687 for 100 acres; for this land, he paid 6 Pence in taxes.

On Nov. 9, 1688, Thomas Whitlock Sr. of Middletown sold eight acres at Mohorus Brook (Middletown) to John Ruckman Jr. for 3 Pounds, 12 Pence. The land was bounded by the property of John Ruckman Sr., James Grover and the late Edward Tart. The transaction was witnessed by Daniel Seabrook. Considering the mention of "Jr." and "Sr.," it is likely this is John's son (John III) purchasing land next to his father (John Jr. of this biography).

John Ruckman Sr.

According to one source in Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints (LDS) family records, the son of Robert Ruckman. This same source gives John's birthplace as Merstham in Surrey County, England. Married to Elizabeth, maiden name unknown. This union produced at least one child, John Ruckman Jr., probably in England.

John (with his last name spelled *Rookeman*), his wife and son John Jr. emigrated to America in 1635 aboard the ship *Abigail*, which sailed from London on July 7, 1635, and arrived at the Plymouth Colony sometime later that same year. John was one of about 220 passengers aboard the ship, which included John Withrop and possibly Lady Deborah Moody (incognito) of the Anabaptist religious movement. According to Victor Cooper's *A Dangerous Woman: The Life and Times of Lady Deborah Moody 1586-1659*, Withrop was a friend and possible relative of Moody. Moody herself may have been aboard as well, although warrants for her in England (due to her religious movement) necessitated she travel under an assumed name, if she did indeed travel.

Withrop's mission was to build a fortress "and such houses as may receive men of quality." Cooper's book says Withrop had 50 men under him.

John landed with the group at Plymouth Colony. It is unknown how long he stayed at Plymouth Colony. Beverly Ruckman-Smersrud, in a Dec. 7, 1999, posting on the Ruckman forum on the GenForum Internet site, claims John took the Plymouth Colony *Oath of Fidelity* in 1644.

Other researchers believe John and his family were in Gravesend on Long Island, New York by 1643-44. This community (located at present-day Brooklyn) was founded by Lady Moody as another Anabaptist settlement.

Ruckman-Smersrud's posting also gives a 1650 deathdate for John with burial at Gravesend.

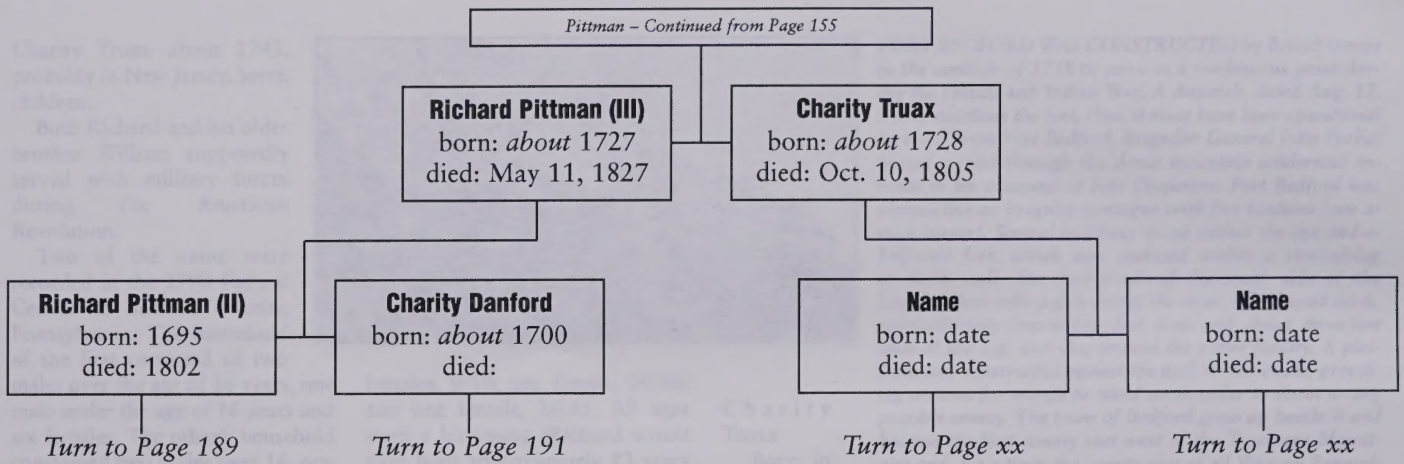
Historical and Genealogical Miscellany, by Dr. John E. Stillwell, lists John's will as dated March 13, 1650. In this document, John appointed William Bowne as trustee of one of his minor sons. This minor son, whose name was not mentioned, came of age in 1655 and the guardians, among them Bowne, were dismissed.

Another one of the Ruckman name – Samuel – may have landed at Gravesend in 1660. Joseph Ruckman, in a posting on the Ruckman Family Forum bulletin board on the Internet GenForum, believes Samuel was possibly John's brother. There is, however, no current documentation to support this claim.

Elizabeth

Maiden name unknown. Probably born in England. Married John Ruckman Sr. This union produced at least one child, John Ruckman Jr., probably in England.

Current thought holds Elizabeth emigrated to America's Plymouth Colony with her husband and son in 1635. The family eventually settled in Gravesend, an Anabaptist community on Long Island, New York. As Elizabeth's death date is unknown, it is unclear if she died in Plymouth Colony or Gravesend.



Biographies

Charity Danford

Only known child of Samuel Danford and Mary Groom. Married Richard Pittman (II) about 1717. Two children: William Pittman – born 1717/died Dec. xx, 1824; and Richard Pittman (III).

Both children were born in New Jersey. Son William died in Licking Creek (Bedford County), Pennsylvania, while son Richard died in Bedford (today Fulton County), Pennsylvania.

Charity's death date and burial location are unknown.

Richard Pittman (II)

Only known child of Richard Pittman (I) and unknown wife. Born in New Jersey. Married Charity Danford about 1717. Two children.

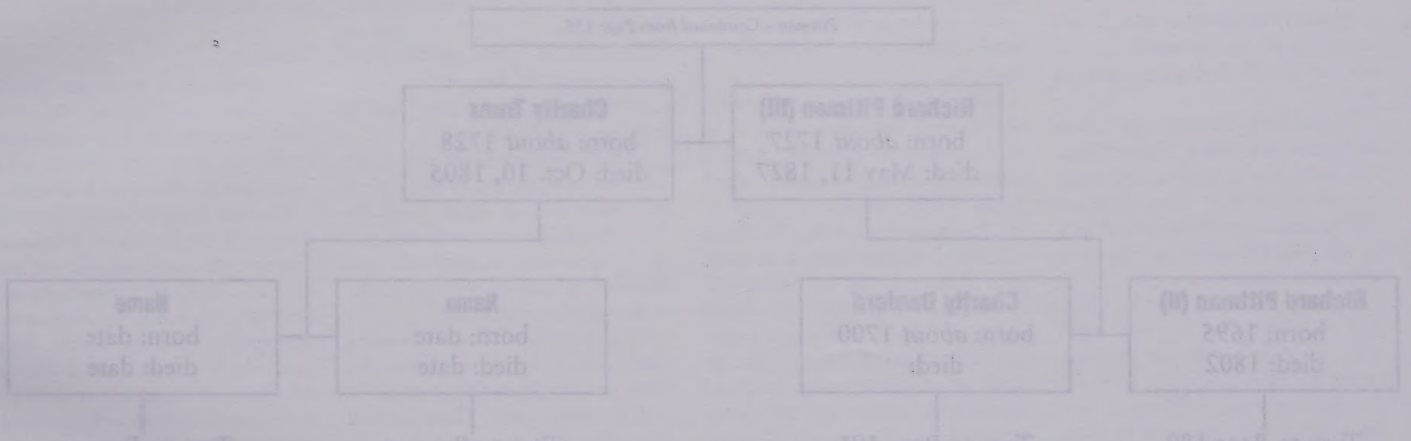
Two of the name were recorded in the 1790 Federal Census in Bedford County, Pennsylvania. The household of the first consisted of two males over the age of 16 years, one male under the age of 16 years and six females. The other's household contained two males over 16, one male under 16 and two females.

Richard was probably living with his son of the same name in Bedford County's Bethel/Belfast Townships by the time of the 1800 census. The younger Richard's household contained two males over the age of 45 years. Two females over the age of 45 was also recorded but it is uncertain if the second one was wife Charity, a different wife (with Charity dead) or a totally unrelated woman.

Richard died in 1802 at the age of 107 years! Son Richard (III) came close as well, dying in 1827 at the age of 100.

Richard Pittman (III)

Second child of Richard Pittman (II) and Charity Danford. Married



Charity Truax about 1743, probably in New Jersey. Seven children.

Both Richard and his older brother William supposedly served with military forces during the American Revolution.

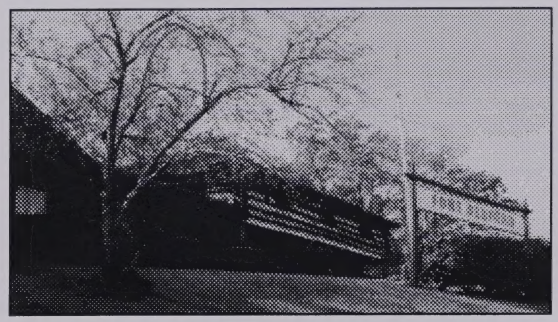
Two of the name were recorded in the 1790 Federal Census in Bedford County, Pennsylvania. The household of the first consisted of two males over the age of 16 years, one male under the age of 16 years and six females. The other's household constained two males over 16, one male under 16 and two females.

The 1800 census found Richard in Bethel/Belfast townships in Bedford County with a household containing one male, age 0-10; one male, 10-16; two males, 45 and up; one female, 0-10; one female, 10-16; and two females, 45 and up. More than likely, the second 45-plus male was his father Richard (II) but it is unclear if the second elderly female is his mother, stepmother or totally unrelated individual. Son Richard IV also lived nearby for this census.

Again in Belfast Townhip in 1810, Richard's household included one male, age 26-45; three females, 0-10; one female, 10-16; and one female, 26-45. All ages seem a bit young (Richard would have been approximately 83 years old); perhaps this is son Richard IV instead.

In 1820, the Belfast Township household consisted of one male, age 0-10; one male, 45 and up; two females, 0-10; two females, 10-16; two females, 16-26; and one female, 26-45. One individual was employed in agriculture. More than likely, a widowed or divorced daughter had taken up residence with her by-then widowed father.

Richard died in Bedford (today part of Fulton County) in 1827 at the age of 100 years, seven shorter than his own father. Richard was buried in the Sidling Hill Cemetery in the county.



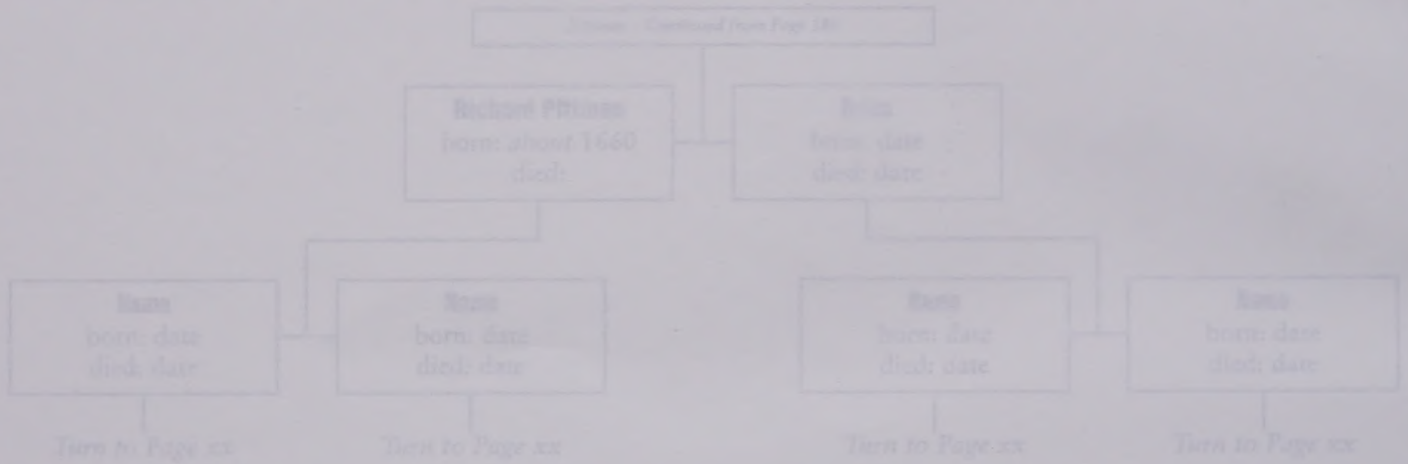
FORT BEDFORD WAS CONSTRUCTED by British troops in the summer of 1758 to serve as a rendezvous point during the French and Indian War. *A dispatch, dated Aug. 13, 1759, mentions the fort; thus, it must have been operational by then. From Fort Bedford, Brigadier General John Forbes hewed a road through the dense mountain wilderness enroute to his conquest of Fort Duquesne. Fort Bedford was shaped like an irregular pentagon with five bastions (one at each corner). Several buildings stood within the one-and-a-half-acre fort, which was enclosed within a vertical-log stockade wall. The fort bordered the south side of the Juniata River with a gate facing the river. A V-shaped ditch, approximately four-to-five feet deep and about three-feet wide at the top, was dug around the entire facility. A platform was constructed against the wall on the inside, providing an area for troops to stand on in order to shoot at any possible enemy. The town of Bedford grew up beside it and became the first county seat west of the Tuscarora Mountains and, for a time, the county seat of all Western Pennsylvania. Fort Bedford was abandoned by British troops sometime around the start of the Revoultionary War. Local settlers used the decaying structure possibly into the late 1780s; circa 1790s records do not mention the structure and it is assumed to be gone by then. The fort was reconstructed in the 20th Century for tourists. Photo pulled from the World Wide Web.*

Charity Truax

Born in New Jersey. Married Richard Pittman (III) about 1743, probably in New Jersey. Seven children: Ruth Pittman – born 1739/died Dec. 6, 1819; Jane Pittman – born *about* 1745/died April 17, 1819; Joseph Pittman – born *about* 1753/died June 11, 1829; Joshua Pittman – born 1760/died *about* 1833; Benjamin Pittman – born March 13, 1765/died Dec. 18, 1852; Mary Pittman – born *about* 1791/died *about* 1854; and Richard Pittman (IV) – born 1775-94/died *about* 1830.

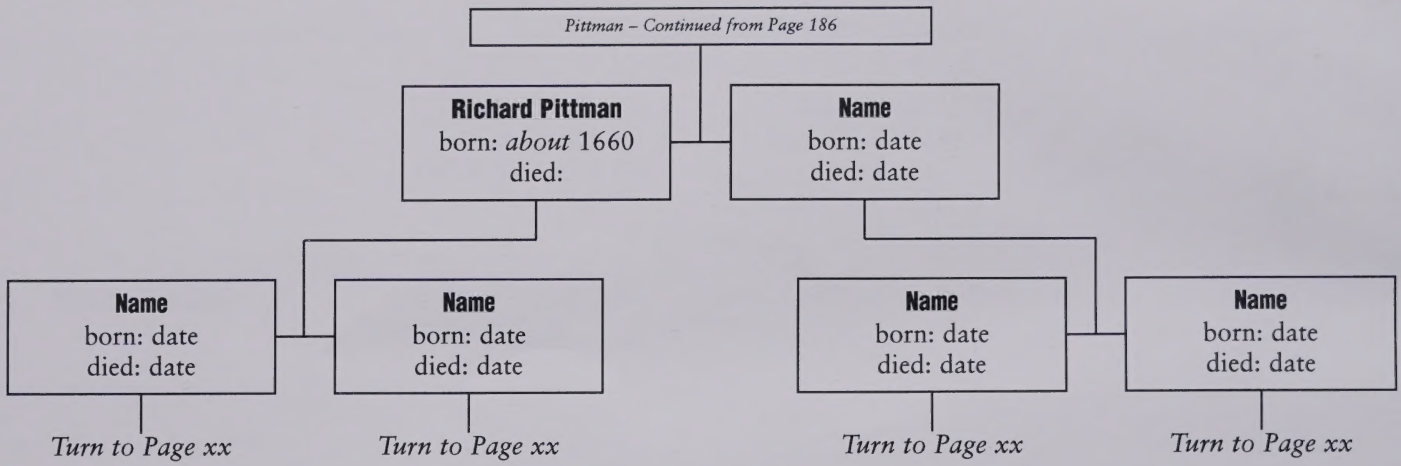
Birthplaces for only two children are known: Woodbridge, New Jersey, for daughter Jane and New Jersey (county unknown) for Joseph.

Charity died in Bedford (now Fulton) County, Pennsylvania, in 1805; she was buried in Sidling Hill Cemetery there.



Richard Pittman (I)

Born in Pescadoris Creek area in New Jersey. Married, wife's name unknown. The union produced at least one child, Richard Pittman (II) around 1685 in New Jersey.



Biographies

Richard Pittman (I)

Born in Pensawkin Creek area in New Jersey. Married, wife's name unknown. This union produced at least one child, Richard Pittman (II), around 1695 in New Jersey.

Pittman

name
born: date
died: date
Richard Pittman
born: about 1560
died:
name
born: date
died: date
name
born: date
died: date
name
born: date
died: date
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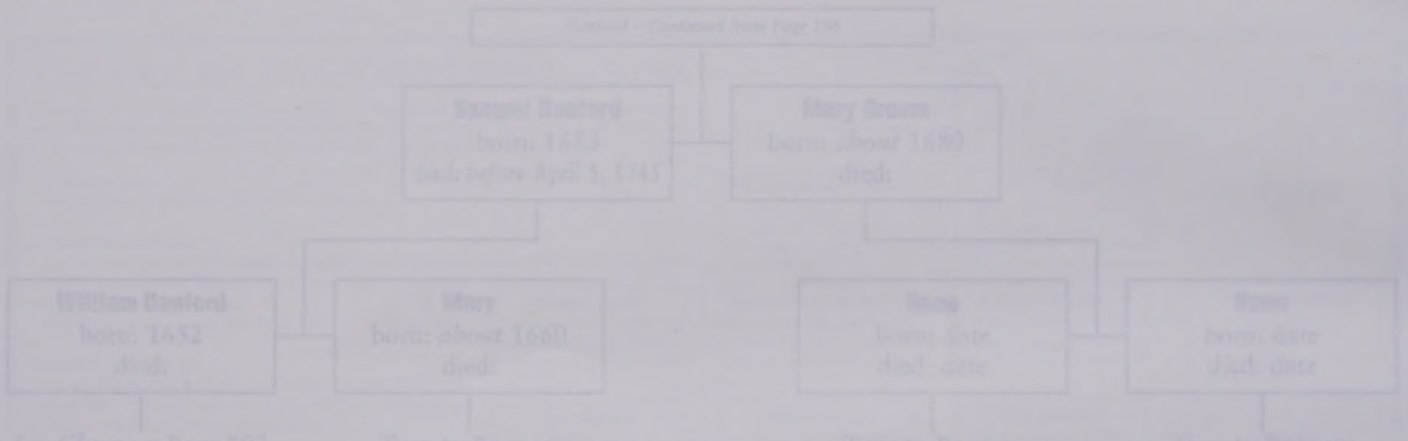
Samuel Danford
born: 1653
died: before April 5, 1745
Mary Groom
born: about 1680
died:
William Danford
born: 1652
died:
Mary
born: about 1680
died:
Name
born: date
died: date
Name
born: date
died: date
See Chart on Page 192
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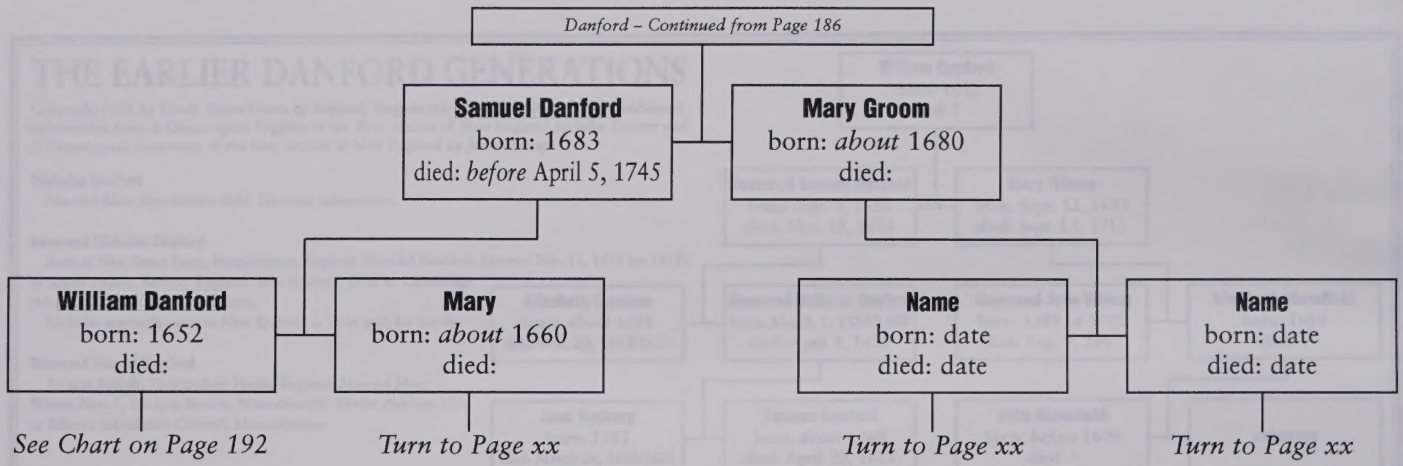

Biographies

Samuel Danford

Only known child of William Danford and Mary, maiden name unknown. Married Mary Groom. At least five children.

Samuel died in Hunterdon County, New Jersey's Maidenhead Township sometime before April 6, 1745.

On that date, Samuel's will was introduced into court (Volume 30, *New Jersey Archives*, page 131 – Calendar of Wills 1730-1750). In his will, Samuel was listed as "yeoman. The will mentioned sons William, Samuel (Jr.) and James, Samuel Jr.'s two sons and grand-daughter Mary Pittman. Son-in-law Richard Pittman was named executor. Another son – Aaron – was mentioned but in such a way as to infer he was already dead; son-in-law and executor Pittman was to "receive my son Aaron's clothing." William Watson and James Clark served as witnesses. The will was proved July 6, 1745, in Hunterdon County before the same court.

William Danford

First child of Reverend Samuel Danford and Mary Wilson. Born in Massachusetts. Married Mary, maiden name unknown, about 1682. This union produced at least one child, Samuel Danford, in 1683.

William's death date and burial location is unknown.

Mary Groom

Married Samuel Danford. At least five children: Samuel Danford Jr.; William Danford; James Danford; Aaron Danford; and Charity Danford.

As the family lived in Maidenhead Township in Hunterdon County, New Jersey, it is possible at least one if not all of the children were born there.

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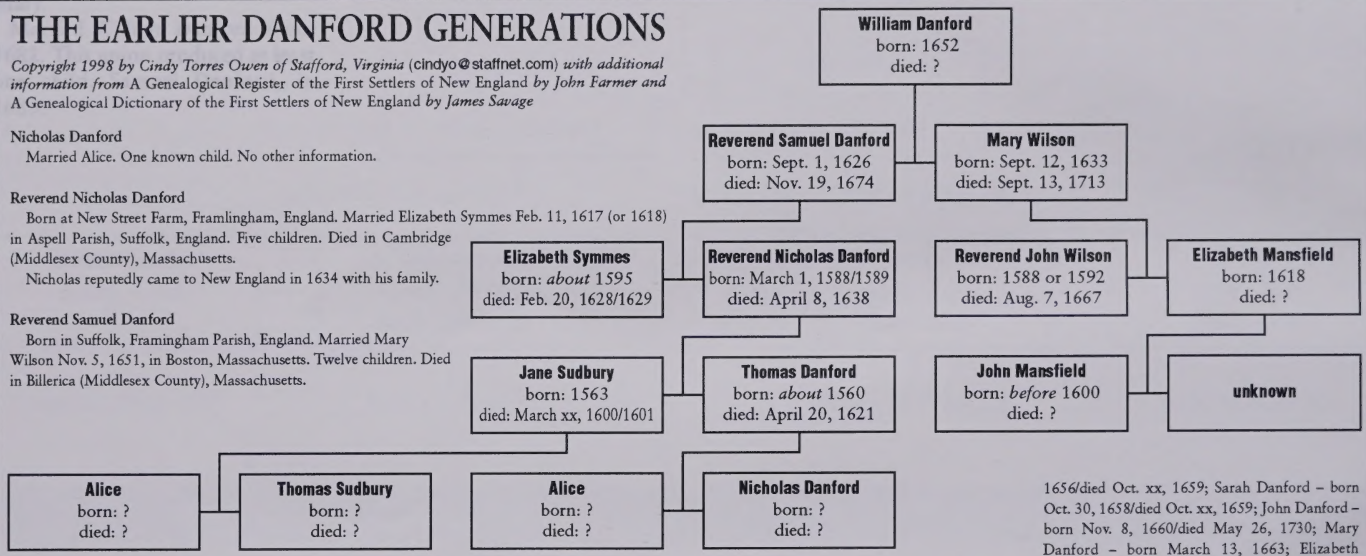
See Chart on Page 192

THE EARLIER DANFORD GENERATIONS

Copyright 1998 by Cindy Torres Owen of Stafford, Virginia (cindyo@staffnet.com) *with additional information from* A Genealogical Register of the First Settlers of New England *by John Farmer and* A Genealogical Dictionary of the First Settlers of New England *by James Savage*



Nicholas Danford

Married Alice. One known child. No other information.

Reverend Nicholas Danford

Born at New Street Farm, Framlingham, England. Married Elizabeth Symmes Feb. 11, 1617 (or 1618) in Aspell Parish, Suffolk, England. Five children. Died in Cambridge (Middlesex County), Massachusetts.

Nicholas reputedly came to New England in 1634 with his family.

Reverend Samuel Danford

Born in Suffolk, Framingham Parish, England. Married Mary Wilson Nov. 5, 1651, in Boston, Massachusetts. Twelve children. Died in Billerica (Middlesex County), Massachusetts.

Thomas Danford

Born and died in Suffolk, Framingham Parish, England. Married Jane Sudbury Jan. 24, 1585 (or 1586) in the same parish. One known child.

Elizabeth Mansfield

Married John Wilson about 1632. One known child: Mary Wilson.

John Mansfield

Wife's name unknown. One known child.

Jane Sudbury

Born in Kelshall, Cheshire, England. Married Thomas Danford Jan. 24, 1585 (or 1586) in Suffolk, Framingham Parish, England. One known child: Reverend Nicholas Danford. Died in Suffolk.

Thomas Sudbury

Married Alice. One known child.

Elizabeth Symmes

Born in England. Married Reverend Nicholas Danford Feb. 11, 1617 (or 1618) in Aspell Parish, Suffolk, England. Five children: Elizabeth Danforth – born 1618; Anna Danforth – born *about* 1620; Thomas Danford – born 1622/died Nov. 5, 1699; Reverend Samuel Danford; and Jonathan Danford – born Feb. 29, 1628/died Sept. 7, 1712.

Jonathan was born in Framlingham in Suffolk; most likely all of the children were born there.

Reverend John Wilson

Third son of Reverend William Wilson. Born in England. Married Elizabeth Mansfield about 1632. One child. Died in Boston, Massachusetts.

John was admitted as a freeman in 1633 and later became the first minister of Boston.

Mary Wilson

Born in Boston, Massachusetts. Married Reverend Samuel Danford Nov. 5, 1651, in Boston. Twelve children: William Danford; Samuel Danford – born Jan. 14, 1653/died June xx, 1653; Mary Danford – born May 24, 1654/died Oct. xx, 1659; Elizabeth Danford – *baptised* July 13, 1656/died Oct. xx, 1659; Sarah Danford – born Oct. 30, 1658/died Oct. xx, 1659; John Danford – born Nov. 8, 1660/died May 26, 1730; Mary Danford – born March 13, 1663; Elizabeth Danford – born Feb. 9, 1665/died 1672; Samuel Danforth – born Dec. 18, 1666/died Nov. 14, 1727; Sarah Danford – born Feb. 21, 1670; Thomas Danford – born April 3, 1672/died April 13, 1672; and Elizabeth Danford – born Oct. 16, 1673/died Oct. 18, 1673. Married Joseph Rock (or Rocke) in 1674 in Boston. No information on children. Mary died in Massachusetts in 1713.

Alice

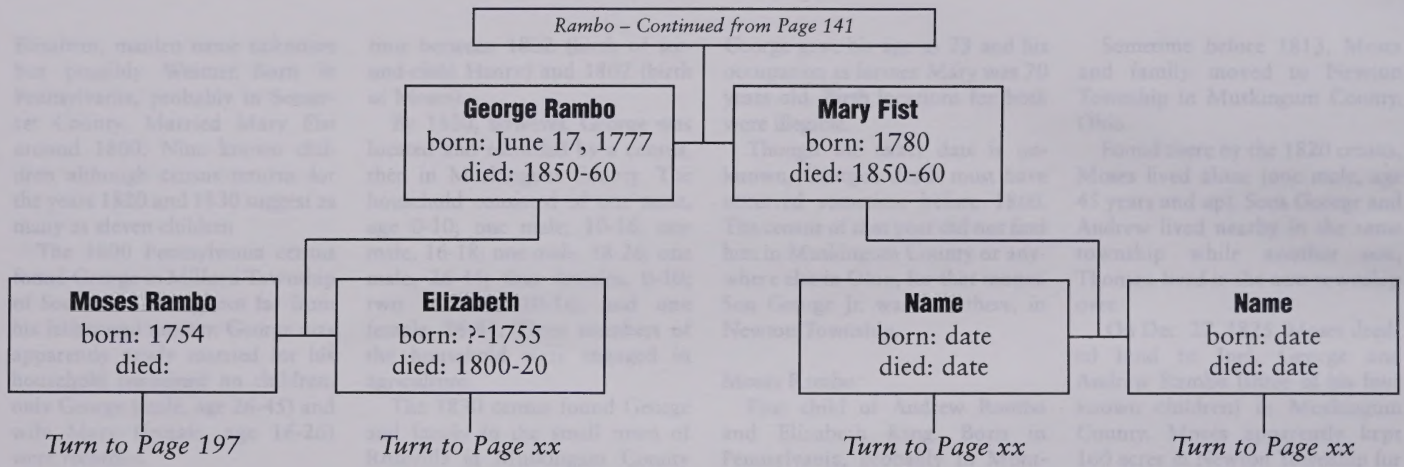
Married Nicholas Danford. One known child: Thomas Danford.

Alice

Married Thomas Sudbury. One known child: Jane Sudbury.

Mary

Married William Danford about 1682. This union produced at least one child, Samuel Danford, in 1683.



Biographies

Mary Fist

Married George Rambo around 1800. Nine known children although census returns for the years 1820 and 1830 suggest as many as eleven children: George Rambo (Jr.) – born Jan. 24, 1801/died Oct. 27, 1879; Henry Rambo – born 1802-04; Moses Rambo – born Nov. 26, 1807/died May 10, 1866; John Rambo – born 1810-11/died May 15, 1884; William Rambo – born Jan. 8, 1812; Catherine Rambo – born Feb. 6, 1816/died April 23, 1900; Rachel Rambo – born *around* 1817; Solomon Rambo; and Martha Jane Rambo – born *around* 1826.

The first four children were probably born in Milford Township of Somerset County, Pennsylvania. Son William was born in Muskingum County, Ohio, and it is extremely probable the remaining children were born there as well. Genealogist Marshall W. McCoy (mccoym@wdni.com) believes only the first two children were born in Milford Township with the remaining children born in Muskingum County's Newton Township. If true, this would have placed the family's migration from Pennsylvania to Ohio sometime between 1802 and 1807.

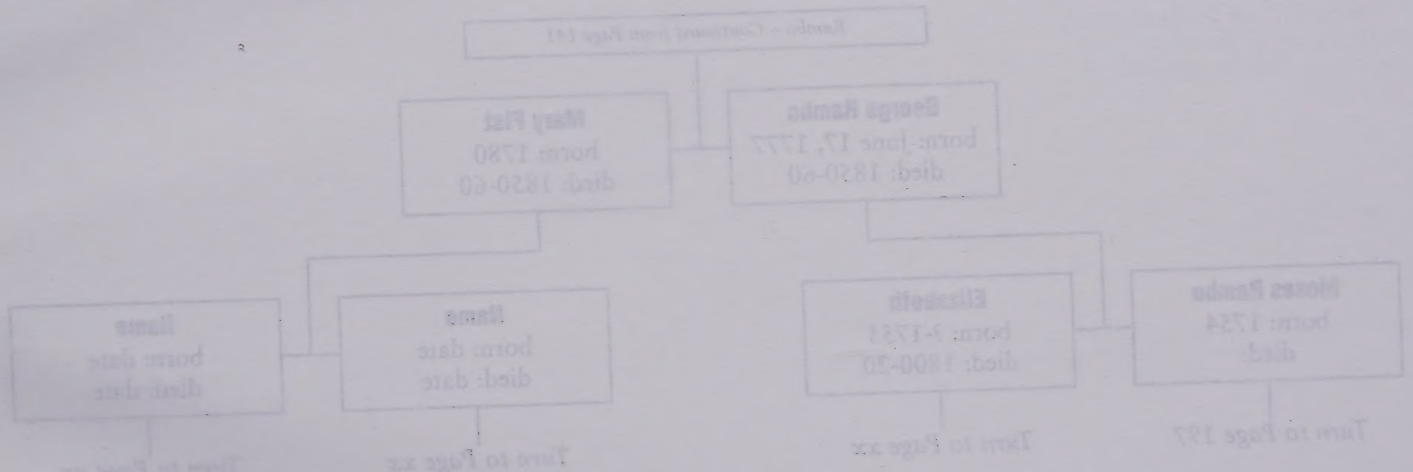
Additionally, census returns for the years 1820 and 1830 suggest Mary bore as many as eleven children for husband George although only eight are documented.

Mary's only listing in census returns came in 1850, when she was 70 years old. She and George lived alone in Brush Creek Township of Muskingum County. Her birth location was illegible.

Mary died sometime after 1850 in Muskingum County. Her exact deathdate is unknown.

George Rambo

First child of Moses Rambo and


Mary Flat
born: 1780
died: 1850-60
George Rambo
born: June 12, 1777
died: 1850-60
Liana
born: date
died: date
Hans
born: date
died: date
Elizabeth
born: 3-1753
died: 1800-20
Moses Rambo
born: 1754
died:

Elizabeth, maiden name unknown but possibly Weimer. Born in Pennsylvania, probably in Somerset County. Married Mary Fist around 1800. Nine known children although census returns for the years 1820 and 1830 suggest as many as eleven children

The 1800 Pennsylvania census found George in Milford Township of Somerset County, not far from his father and mother. George was apparently newly married for his household contained no children; only George (male, age 26-45) and wife Mary (female, age 16-26) were recorded.

George migrated from Somerset County to Muskingum County, Ohio, sometime before 1812 when son William Rambo was born in Muskingum County. This move may have happened as early as 1810 as the census doesn't seem to find him in Pennsylvania. A George Rambo was found in Chester County, but this is too far east of Somerset to be realistic. According to genealogist Marshall W. McCoy, George's third child (Moses Rambo) was born in Muskingum County's Newton Township in late 1807. If this is true, then George must have migrated from Pennsylvania to Ohio sometime between 1802 (birth of second-child Henry) and 1807 (birth of Moses).

By 1820, however, George was located and recorded by a census, then in Muskingum County. The household consisted of one male, age 0-10; one male, 10-16; one male, 16-18; one male, 18-26; one male, 26-45; four females, 0-10; two females, 10-16; and one female, 26-45. Three members of the household were engaged in agriculture.

The 1830 census found George and family in the small town of Roseville in Muskingum County with one male, age 40-50; one female, 0-5; one female, 10-15; two females, 15-20; one female, 20-30; and one female, 50-60. Sons George Rambo Jr. and John Rambo lived in neighboring Newton Township.

In 1840, George and the family were in Brush Creek Township of Muskingum County. Only three members were left in the household: one male, age 50-60; one female, 10-15; and one female, 50-60. One individual was employed in agriculture. Son George Jr. still lived nearby.

George and Mary lived alone, according to 1850 census returns. George gave his age as 73 and his occupation as farmer. Mary was 70 years old. Birth locations for both were illegible.

Though the exact date is unknown, George's death must have occurred sometime before 1860. The census of that year did not find him in Muskingum County or anywhere else in Ohio, for that matter. Son George Jr. was still there, in Newton Township.

Moses Rambo

First child of Andrew Rambo and Elizabeth King. Born in Pennsylvania, probably in Montgomery County. Married Elizabeth, maiden name unknown but believed to be Weimer. At least four children.

Moses was first found by a U.S. census in 1790 in Montgomery County. His household consisted of one male over the age of 16 years, two males under 16 and two females.

Ten years later (1800), Moses was found in Milford Township of Somerset County, Pennsylvania. In his household were one male, age 10-16; one male, 16-26; one male, 26-45; one male, 45 and up; one female, 0-10; one female, 26-45; and one female, 45 and up.

Sometime before 1813, Moses and family moved to Newton Township in Muskingum County, Ohio.

Found there by the 1820 census, Moses lived alone (one male, age 45 years and up). Sons George and Andrew lived nearby in the same township while another son, Thomas, lived in the next township over.

On Dec. 27, 1825, Moses deeded land to Joel, George and Andrew Rambo (three of his four known children) in Muskingum County. Moses apparently kept 160 acres in Newton Township for himself, paying taxes on this property until 1831.

All three of his sons were found by the 1830 census in Newton Township but Moses was not. Though his exact location in unknown, one could suppose an aged, widowed man like Moses might be living with one of his children.

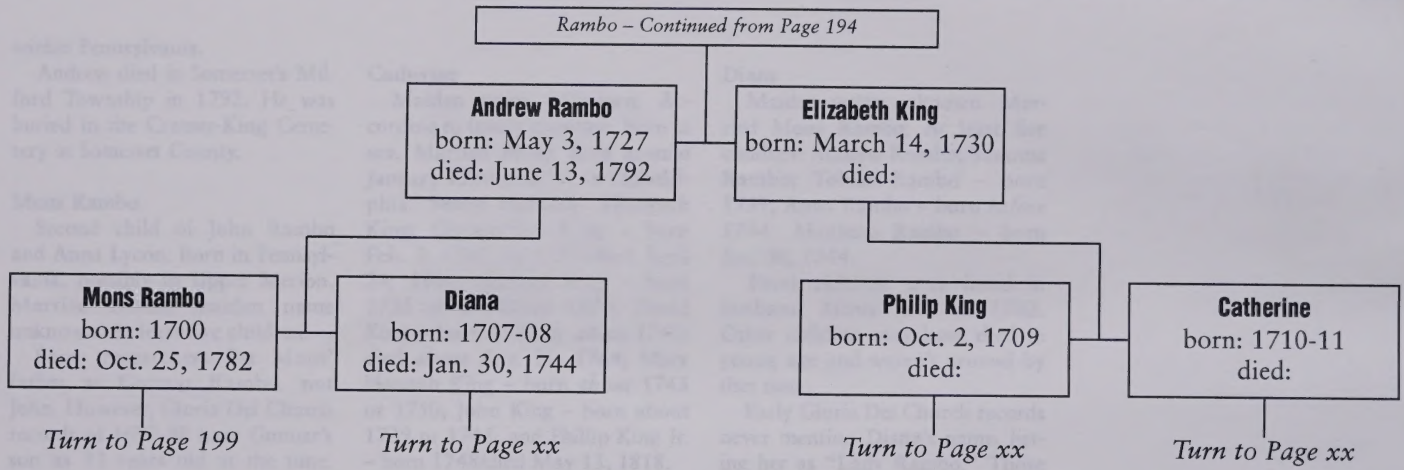
It is believed Moses died in 1831.

Elizabeth

Maiden name unknown but believed to be Weimer. Married Moses Rambo. At least four children: George Rambo; Andrew

Rambo – born 1780-85; John Tobias Rambo – *baptized* April 13, 1785; and Joel Rambo – born Nov. 22, 1788.

Son Joel was supposedly born in Somerset County, Pennsylvania. However, census returns for the family indicate they were in Montgomery County, Pennsylvania as late as 1790. If census returns are accurate, then all four children were born in Montgomery County.



Biographies

Elizabeth King

Daughter of Philip King and Catherine, maiden name unknown. Born in Pennsylvania. Married Andrew Rambo Jan. 31, 1753, in Christ's Church of Philadelphia. At least five children: Moses Rambo; Hannah Rambo – born April 22, 1756; William Rambo – born March 22, 1759/died 1840; Amos Rambo – born April 28, 1764 (or 1761); and George Rambo – born 1775.

Son Moses may have been born in Montgomery County. The other children were either born there or in Philadelphia.

Philip King

Born in Devonshire, England, and christened in Dartmouth that same day. Married Catherine, maiden name unknown around January 1730 or 1731 in Philadelphia. Seven children.

It is commonly believed Philip came to Philadelphia around 1730 and was married shortly thereafter. All of the children were born in Philadelphia, placing Philip and the family there until at least 1752.

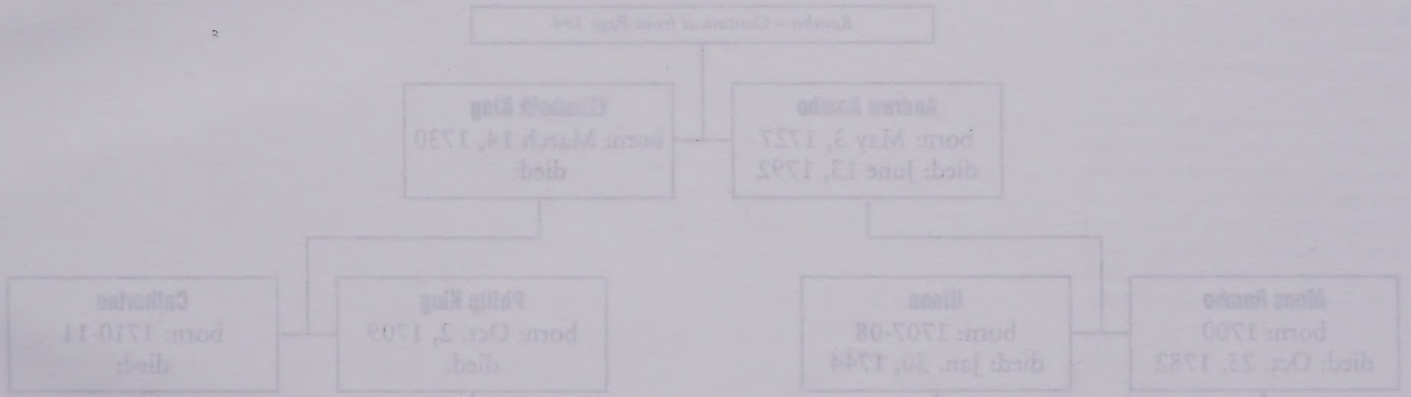
Several of the children later migrated to Somerset County, Pennsylvania, in the late 1790s or early 1800s. It is unknown if Philip and Catherine followed the children there or remained in Philadelphia.

Philip's deathdate is unknown.

Andrew Rambo

First child of Mons Rambo and Diana, maiden name unknown. Born in Upper Merion, Pennsylvania. Married Elizabeth King Jan. 31, 1753, in Christ's Church of Philadelphia. At least five children.

Sometime after the birth of son Amos Rambo (christened in 1764 at Gloria Dei Church), Andrew moved the family from Montgomery County to Somerset County



within Pennsylvania.

Andrew died in Somerset's Milford Township in 1792. He was buried in the Cramer-King Cemetery in Somerset County.

Mons Rambo

Second child of John Rambo and Anna Lycon. Born in Pennsylvania, possibly in Upper Merion. Married Diana, maiden name unknown. At least five children.

Some researchers list Mons' father as Gunnar Rambo, not John. However, Gloria Dei Church records of 1697-98 have Gunnar's son as 13 years old at the time. This Mons, in fact, wouldn't be born for two more years.

Family tradition holds Mons (meaning *the hunter* in Swedish) was famous for his hunting exploits. Like many pioneers, he was good with a musket, killing deer to feed his family. Once, a story goes, a panther attacked his dogs while in the woods with Mons shooting and killing it.

Mons died in Upper Merion in 1782 and was buried in the Old Swedes' Church (also known as Gloria Dei or Christ's Church) graveyard. His will, which did not name his already-deceased wife, was proved on Nov. 23, 1782.

Catherine

Maiden name unknown. According to family tradition, born at sea. Married Philip King around January 1730 or 1731 in Philadelphia. Seven children: Elizabeth King; Christopher King – born Feb. 3, 1732 (or 1733)/died April 24, 1811; Michael King – born 1735 or 1741/died 1800; David King – born 1737 or *about* 1743/died *about* Aug. 27, 1764; Mary Hannah King – born *about* 1743 or 1750; John King – born about 1739 or 1745; and Phillip King Jr. – born 1748/died May 13, 1818.

All of the children were born in Pennsylvania with at least five born in Philadelphia: Elizabeth, Christopher, David, Mary Hannah and Phillip Jr. It is also believed the family migrated to Pennsylvania's Somerset County in the late 1790s or early 1800s as at least three children died there: Phillip Jr. (Turkeyfoot), Christopher (Lower Turkeyfoot) and Michael (town unknown). Phillip Jr. was buried in the Cramer-King Cemetery in Somerset County. John died in Philadelphia although the exact date is unknown. David, whose occupation was masonry, died in York County, Pennsylvania.

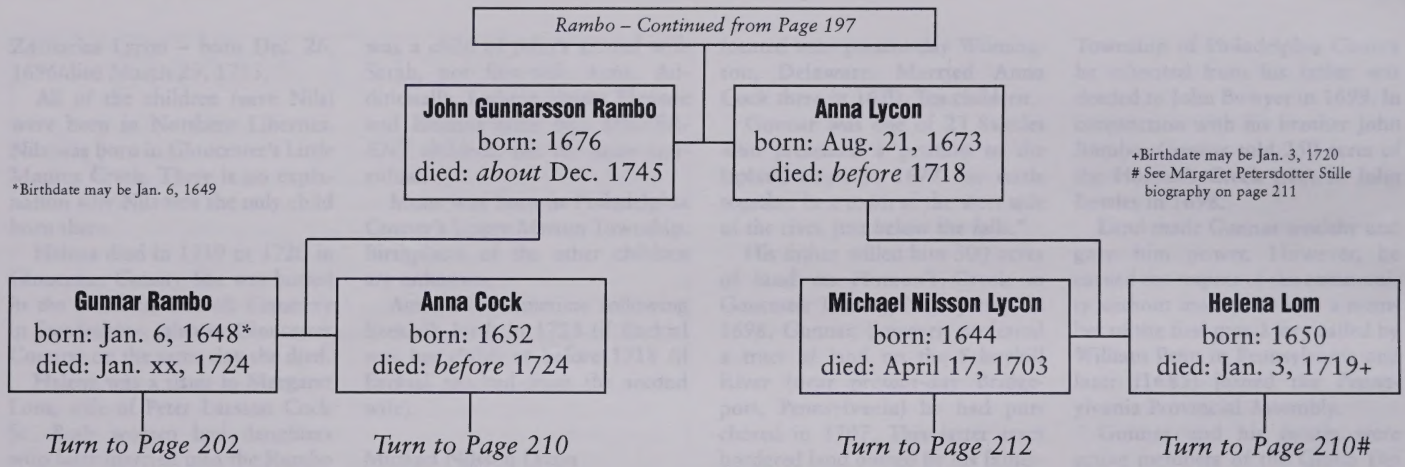
Diana

Maiden name unknown. Married Mons Rambo. At least five children: Andrew Rambo; Susanna Rambo; Tobias Rambo – born 1739; Anna Rambo – born *before* 1744; Abraham Rambo – born Jan. 30, 1744.

These children were listed in husband Mons' will in 1782. Other children may have died in young age and weren't around by that time.

Early Gloria Dei Church records never mention Diana's name, listing her as "Lady Rambo." Those records show Diana and Mons served as godparents or sureties for children of Ezekiel Rambo and Mathias Holstein, who were christened at the church.

Diana apparently died in childbirth for her deathdate is the birthdate of youngest son Abraham. Diana was just 36 years old. She was buried in the Old Swedes' Church graveyard.



Biographies

Anna Cock

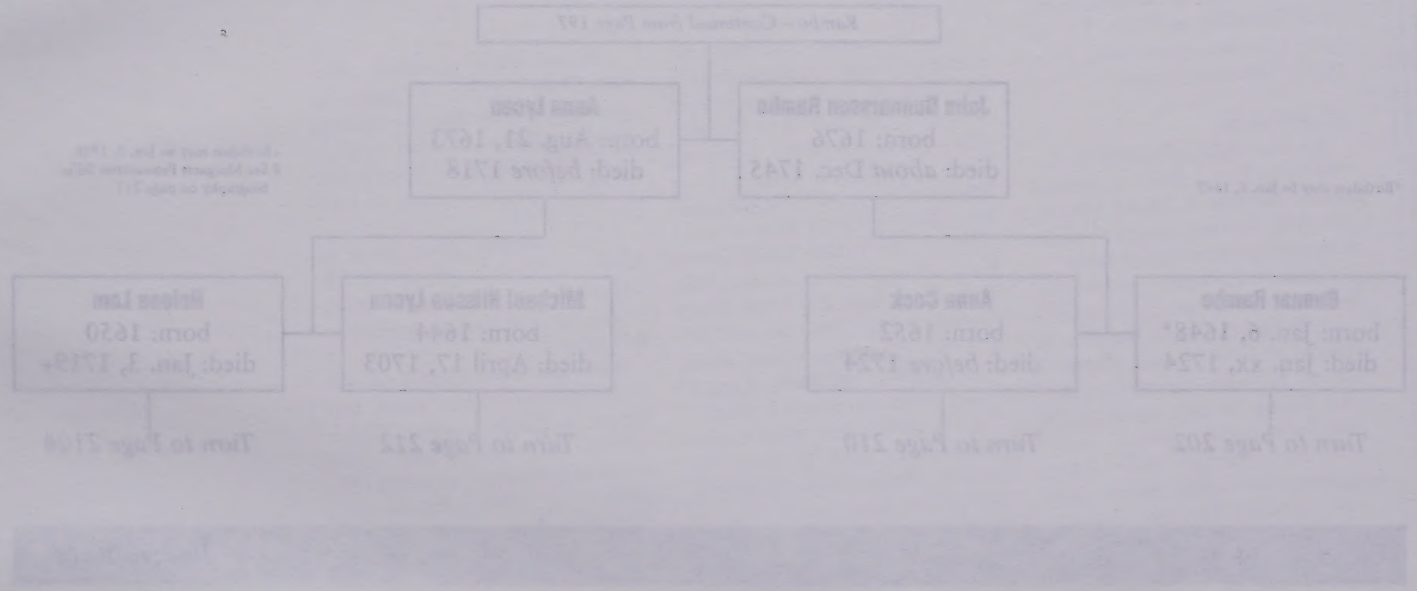
Daughter of Peter Larsson Cock Sr. and Margaret Lom. Married Gunnar Rambo in 1670 in the colony of New Sweden, located near present-day Wilmington, Delaware. Ten children: John Gunnarsson Rambo; Peter Rambo – born 1678/died 1753; Gunnar Rambo (Jr.) – born 1680; Andrew (or Anders) Rambo – born 1682/died July 3, 1755; Mons Rambo – born 1684/died 1760; Brigitta Rambo – born Nov. 15, 1685; Gabriel Rambo – born 1687; Mathias Rambo – born 1690; Elias Rambo – born 1693; and unknown child – born *after* 1693/died at a young age.

All of the children were supposedly born in Bridgeport, Pennsylvania, but the family didn't move there until sometime after 1707 when husband Gunnar bought land there. More than likely, they were born in New Sweden.

Anna's sister Brigitta Cock also married into the Rambo family, uniting with Gunnar's younger brother, John.

Helena Lom

Seventh child of Mons Svensson Lom and Margaret Petersobtler Stille. Married Michael Lycon around 1670, possibly in Northern Liberties (Gloucester County), New Jersey. Ten children: Catharine Lycon – born Sept. 9, 1671; Anna Lycon; Gertrude Lycon – born Dec. 16, 1675/died 1701; Nils Lycon – born Feb. 20, 1676 (or 1677)/died March 13, 1731 (or 1732); Mans Lycon – born March 10, 1678 (or 1679)/died Jan. 13, 1726 (or 1727); Anders Lycon – born March 11, 1681 (or 1682)/died April 9, 1733; Christina Lycon – born Feb. 17, 1683 (or 1684); Michael Lycon (Jr.) – born Oct. 11, 1686/died 1733; Helena Lycon – born Dec. 29, 1689; and



Zacharias Lycon – born Dec. 26, 1696/died March 29, 1733.

All of the children (save Nils) were born in Northern Liberties. Nils was born in Gloucester's Little Mantus Creek. There is no explanation why Nils was the only child born there.

Helena died in 1719 or 1720 in Gloucester County. She was buried in the Raccoon Church Cemetery in Swedesboro (also in Gloucester County) on the same day she died.

Helena was a sister to Margaret Lom, wife of Peter Larsson Cock Sr.. Both women had daughters who later married into the Rambo family.

Anna Lycon

Second child of Michael Nilsson Lycon and Helena Lom. Born in the Northern Liberties (Gloucester County), New Jersey. Married John Gunnarsson Rambo. Seven children: Peter Rambo – born 1697; Mons Rambo – born *before* 1700/died Oct. 25, 1782; Elcande (or Eleanor) Rambo – born *about* 1700; Gabriel Rambo; Michael Rambo; Anna Rambo – born *around* 1716; and Ezekiel Rambo – born *around* 1723.

According to genealogist Bruce Ludwig of Juneau, Alaska, Ezekiel was a child of John's second wife Sarah, not first-wife Anna. Additionally, Ludwig claims Elcande and Eleanor were two *DIFFERENT* children, not the same individual.

Mons was born in Philadelphia County's Upper Merion Township. Birthplaces of the other children are unknown.

Anna died sometime following Ezekiel's birth in 1723 (if Ezekial was her child) or before 1718 (if Ezekial resulted from the second wife).

Michael Nilsson Lycon

Son of Nils Andersson and unknown mother. Born in Sweden. Married Helena Lom around 1670. Ten children.

Michael died in Gloucester County, New Jersey, in 1703. His will was dated the same day as his death. Michael's wife died there in 1719 or 1720 and was buried in the Raccoon Church Cemetery in Swedesboro; perhaps Michael was buried there at the time of his death.

Gunnar Rambo

First child of Peter Gunnarson Rambo and Britta Mattsdotter. Born in the colony of New Sweden, located near present-day Wilmington, Delaware. Married Anna Cock there in 1670. Ten children.

Gunnar was one of 23 Swedes who presented a petition to the Upland court in 1677 "to settle together in a town at the west side of the river, just below the falls."

His father willed him 300 acres of land on Homan's Creek in Goucester County, New Jersey, in 1698. Gunnar, however, preferred a tract of land on the Schuykill River (near present-day Bridgeport, Pennsylvania) he had purchased in 1707. This latter tract bordered land owned by his father-in-law, Peter Cock, on one side and Widow Yocum's land on the south side.

In fact, Gunnar knew land quite well. He shoud have: At one time he may have owned as much as 2,000 acres in the new colony. Old property rights show a March 26, 1700 (or 1701), warrant for 1,000 acres of land with a "Ret'n Res'y (Return of Resurvey) of 614 acres dated Feb. 10, 1702, and 214 acres, dated Feb. 18 of that same year.

Gunnar, in turn, sold or traded some of this land to increase his wealth. Approximately 100 acres of the land in Shackamaxum Township of Philadelphia County he inherited from his father was deeded to John Bowyer in 1699. In conjunction with his brother John Rambo, Gunnar sold 250 acres of the Homan's Creek tract to John Bowles in 1698.

Land made Gunnar wealthy and gave him power. However, he earned the respect of the community without money. He was a member of the first grand jury called by William Penn in Pennsylvania and later (1685) joined the Pennsylvania Provincial Assembly.

Gunnar and his family were active members of the Gloria Dei Church at Wicacoa. In 1684, Gunnar and brother Peter Rambo Jr. made a voluntary contribution of 30 guilders for the support of Reverend Jacob Fabritius. In addition, the 1697-98 roll of Swedes living on the Delaware (prepared by Gloria Dei pastor Andreas Rudman) listed Gunnar, his wife and their eight living children.

According to genealogist Bruce Ludwig of Juneau, Alaska, Gunnar sold his plantation in 1697 and moved in with son John Gunnarsson Rambo at Matsank on the Schuylkill River in Upper Merion Township (Philadelphia County, Pennsylvania). However, Gunnar

SHACKAMAXON

Nearby the early Swedish colony of New Sweden in America was an area known as Shackamaxon. Several of the early Swedish families, including the Rambo family of Gunnar Rambo and the Cock family of Lawrence Cock, came to live and prosper in this general area. The following description comes from Rudolph J. Walther's 1925 book, *Happenings in Ye Olde Philadelphia, 1680-1900*:

"...That part of the township of the Northern Liberties which lay between Cohocksink Creek and Gunner's Run, in the neighborhood of the road to Frankfort and between that road and the Delaware River. It was originally known as Shakamaxan, an Indian village. It was a tract of land lying on the River Delaware above Hartsfield, subsequently a part of the Northern Liberties, lying north of Peg's [Pegg's] Run. Shakamaxan was known as a town before Nov. 12, 1678, when Lawrence Cock made a grant of 300 acres there. In the deed, it is stated that the whole tract of land surveyed at Shakamaxan was 1800 acres of which Lawrence Cock, Moens, Cock, Gunnar Rambo and Michael Nielson [possibly Michael Nilsson Lycon] were owners."

Courtesy of Happenings in Ye Olde Philadelphia, 1680-1900, *by Rudolph J. Walther*

didn't purchase his Bridgeport plantation until 1707 which would have to place his moving in with John after that date. Additionally, there is no mention of wife Anna and the Gloria Dei roster of 1697 listed Anna as still alive.

Death claimed Gunnar at the age of 75 years in 1724 in Upper Merion Township of Montgomery County, Pennsylvania. His will, dated Jan. 4 of that year, was entered into probate on March 20 in Philadelphia.

John Gunnarsson Rambo

First child of Gunnar Rambo and Anna Cock. Probably born in the colony of New Sweden, located near present-day Wilmington, Delaware. Married Anna Lycon. Six or seven children. Married Sarah, maiden name unknown. Four or five children.

John and his father arranged to purchase land in in 1696 in what is today Upper Merion, Pennsylvania. Before the deal could be finalized, it was discovered the land was part of 7,800 acres William Penn had granted his daughter, Letitia. In a move demonstrating the ranking of the Rambo family in early Pennsylvania, Penn's lawyers restored 250 acres of the tract to John in 1709.

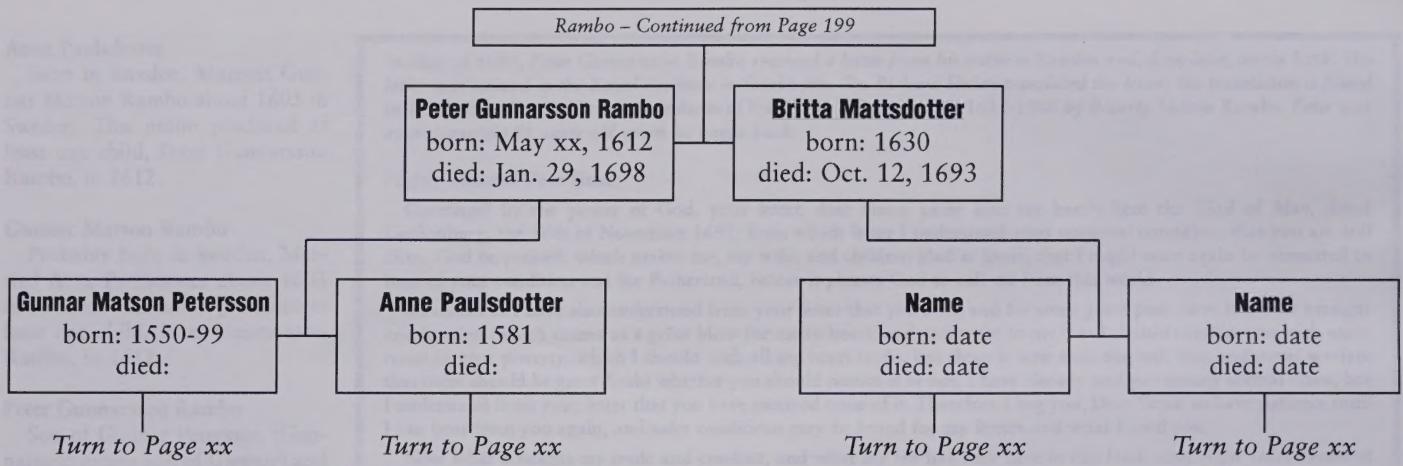
John's exact death date is unknown but must be between Nov. 27, 1745 (the date on his will) and Jan. 6, 1746 (when that will was entered into probate).

Sarah

Maiden name unknown. Married John Gunnarsson Rambo (his second marriage). Four or five children: Gunnar Rambo; Maudlin Rambo; Lydia Rambo; Israel Rambo; and Ezekial Rambo – born 1723.

According to genealogist Bruce Ludwig of Juneau, Alaska, Ezekiel *WAS* Sarah's child and not from John's first marriage (with Anna Lycon). If this is true, then five children resulted from John and Sarah's union. Other genealogists, however, believe Ezekial resulted from the first marriage. If so, then John and Sarah's union only produced four children.

The birth of Ezekial also impacts when Sarah's marriage to John took place. If Ezekial was from the first marriage, Sarah's marriage couldn't have occurred until after 1723. According to Ludwig, however, Anna Lycon died before 1718, Ezekial was born in 1723 and Sarah must have married John sometime between those years.



Biographies

Britta Mattsdotter

Born in Vasa, Finland. Married Peter Gunnarson Rambo April 7, 1647, in the colony of New Sweden, located near present-day Wilmington, Delaware. Eight children: Gunnar Rambo; Gertrude Rambo – born Oct. 19, 1650/died *after* 1705; Peter Rambo Jr.. – born June 17, 1653/died Dec. 12, 1729; Catherine Rambo – born 1655/died *after* 1708; Andrew Rambo – born 1658/died 1698; John Rambo – born 1661/died Oct. xx, 1741; unknown daughter – died at age of eight years; and unknown daughter who married and died *circa* 1693 with no children.

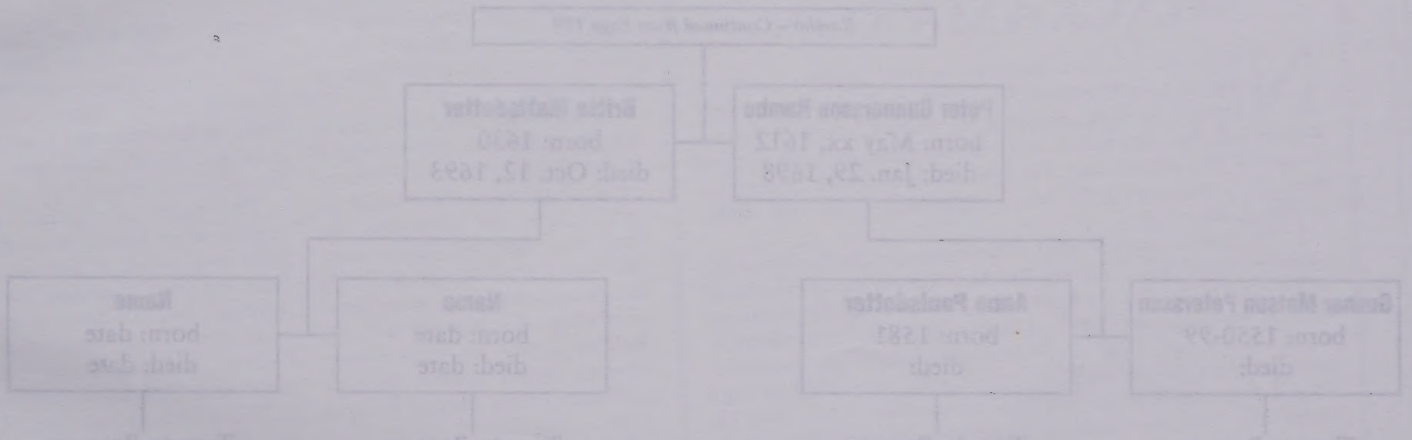
All of the children were born in New Sweden. Gertrude died in Moyamensing (South Philadelphia) while Peter (Jr.) died in Philadelphia County's Lower Dublin Township. Catherine and John passed away in Gloucester County, New Jersey (Catherine on Little Mantua Creek with John's extact location unknown). Andrew died in Passyunk (South Philadelphia).

Britta's date of emigration to the colony is unknown but certainly predated her marriage.

Little else is known about Britta, her life or character. Records show she was called as a witness in a defamation suit brought against her son-in-law, Peter Mattson *alias* Peter Mattson Dalbo, by Harmon Enoch. She appeared before the Upland court on Sept. 12, 1682.

Husband Peter was corresponding with his sister back in Sweden and mentioned Britta and one of their daughters in a May 1693 letter. His will, dated Aug. 3, 1694, however, listed neither individual. Britta's death in 1693 was confirmed by researcher Peter Stebbins Craig in 1987.

Britta was buried in Gloria Dei Church's Cemetery in Philadelphia.



Anne Paulsdotter

Born in Sweden. Married Gunnar Matson Rambo about 1603 in Sweden. This union produced at least one child, Peter Gunnarsson Rambo, in 1612.

Gunnar Matson Rambo

Probably born in Sweden. Married Anne Paulsdotter about 1603 in Sweden. This union produced at least one child, Peter Gunnarsson Rambo, in 1612.

Peter Gunnarsson Rambo

Son of Gunnar Petersson (Gunnarsson means *son* of *Gunnar*) and Anne Paulsdotter. Born in either Stockholm, Sweden, or Hisingen, an island off the west coast of Sweden. Married Britta Mattsdotter April 7, 1647, in the colony of New Sweden, located near present-day Wilmington, Delaware. Eight children.

Peter's birthplace has prompted several speculations. His grandson, John Rambo, listed Stockholm in a 1749 deposition. Additionally, a 1692 letter from the Swedish postmaster made reference to a Stockholm woman making inquiries into her brother Peter Gunnarsson Rambo's whereabouts in the "New World."

In May of 1693, Peter Gunnarsson Rambo received a letter from his sister in Sweden and, days later, wrote back. His letter is preserved in the Royal Archives in Stockholm. Dr. Richard Hulan translated the letter; the translation is found in The Rambo Family Tree: Descendants of Peter Gunnarsson Rambo 1611-1986 *by Beverly Nelson Rambo. Peter was approximately 81 years old when he wrote back:*

Highly honored Dear Sister:

Greetings! by the power of God, your letter, dear Sister, came into my hands here the 23rd of May, dated Gothenburg, the 16th of November 1692; from which letter I understand your temporal condition; that you are still alive, God be praised, which makes me, my wife, and children glad at heart, that I might once again be permitted to hear of your condition and the Fatherland, before it pleases God to call me from this world.

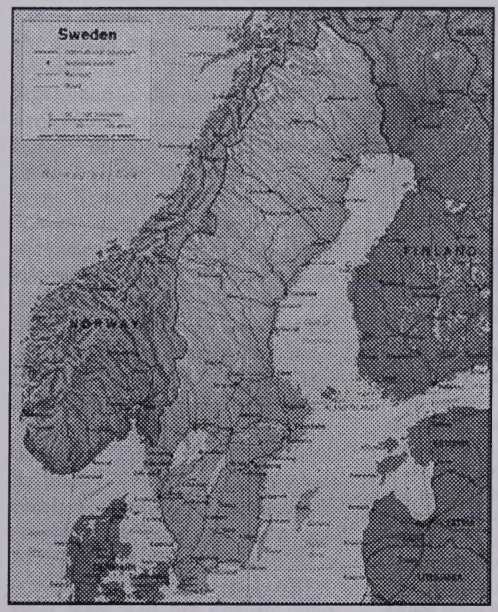
Inasmuch as I have also understood from your letter that you now, and for some years past, have lost your eyesight and hearing (which comes as a great blow for me to hear); and you write to me that I should support you with assistance in your poverty, which I should with all my heart to do, but there is now such discord, war, and naval warfare that there should be great doubt whether you should receive it or not. I have already sent you money several times, but I understand from your letter that you have received none of it. Therefore I beg you, Dear Sister, to have patience until I can hear from you again, and safer conditions may be found for my letters and what I send you.

Now what concerns my trade and conduct, and what my life has been here in this land: after eight years I entered the state of Holy Matrimony with Britta Mattzdotter, who (God be praised) is still living; she also came from Sweden, from Wassa, whom I have lived with in harmony and love for 46 years, and have had with her 4 daughters and 4 sons, but the one daughter when she was 8 years old fell asleep in the Lord. And so I have still 4 living sons and 3 living daughters; all are well provided for and live in plenty with their husbands, wives, and children, so that now from my lineage there are living 37 souls of my children's children.

And I have served faithfully, both the Swedish regime, the Holland Dutch, and the English: I also sat on the court for 29 years, both in the Swedes and the Hollanders' time; for the Swedes have a rule that no case should be decided at court unless the Swedes had their voice in it; but I am old and can no longer endure that toil. Our nations also live faithfully with one another both in harmony and affection. Our land is a very splendid fruitful land, so that we have no lack of anything on which the sustenance of our bodies and lives depends, for the nearby islands are fed by use with the land's goods, with seed, flour, and beer. We have cause also to thank God that we live in harmony, affection, and faithfulness with the Indians, while the surrounding lands and neighbors have had great duress from the Indians; and I may truthfully say, that God has wonderfully preserved and shielded us and has shown a peculiar grace toward us in this heathenish land.

Nothing more occurs to me to write this time, but my dear wife and children send greetings to you and all good friends who may or can be found living, hoping for and awaiting your reply by the first ship that can come. Commending you to the protection and care of God almighty,

Always remaining your most obedient brother until death,
s/ Petter Gunnarsson Rambo



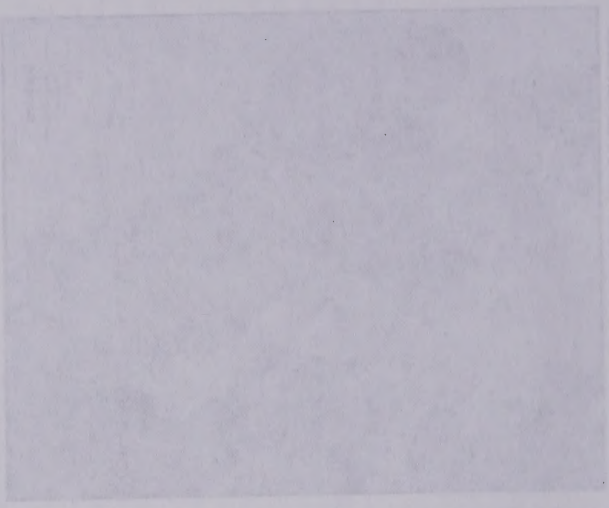
THE KINGDOM OF SWEDEN sits nestled between Norway, Finland, North Sea, Baltic Sea and Gulf of Bothnia on the eastern half of the Scandinavian peninsula. The kingdom occupies 173,666 square miles. Photo pulled from the World Wide Web.

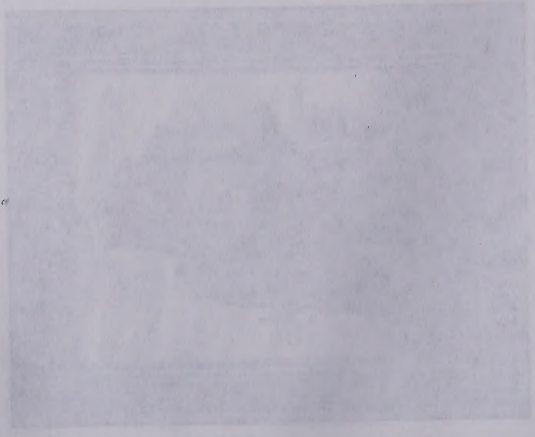
The December 1987 issue of *The Swedish American Genealogist* listed a discovery by researcher Dr. Peter Stebbins Craig of a reference to Peter's birthplace in the notes of Reverend Nicholas Collin, copied from the now-lost Gloria Dei Church records of 1697-1750. Translated into English from the native Swedish, the entry listed Hisingen as Peter's birthplace. Not coincidently, a bluff overlooking the Gota River on the island is called "Ramberget." A statement from one of Peter's grandsons – Jacob Bengtsson – notes Peter's original name was Ramberg and that he changed it to Rambo. *Colonial and Revolutionary Families of Pennsylvania* gives Peter's birthplace as Rambo, Degersfors socken Vasterbotten, in northeastern Sweden.

Much speculation has also been made about Peter's ancestors and their original country. Among the locations theorized are France, as the son of Gunnar de Rambeau, a Huguenot who fled from France to Sweden at the time of the St. Bartholomew Massacre in 1572; France; Scotland; England; the Wends of mid-Europe, a small Slavic group related to the Czechs and Poles; or Sweden. Peter's manners, customs and patronymic naming system seems to be Swedish, most of all. *Bo* means *home* or *dwelling* in Swedish while *ram* means raven. Thus, Rambo literally means *home of the raven*, indicating someone might live on a hillside or side of mountain like a raven might build a nest. Some researchers assume the Rambo name refers to a specific location in Sweden. Today, there are three such locations: A gard (or farm) in Degerfors; a lagenhet in Bjorketory; and another gard in Norrkopin.

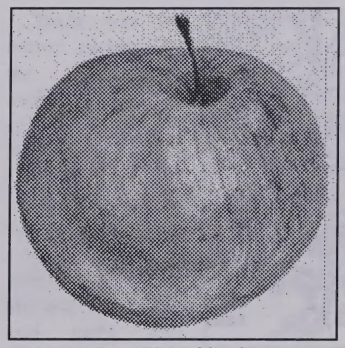
Peter was the first of the Rambo name in America, landing in the

THE KALMAR NYCKEL, *a three-masted armed pinnace (warship), is shown in this painting. It landed on the banks of the Christina River, near present-day East Seventh Street in Wilmington, on April 17, 1640, with Peter Gunnarsson Rambo aboard. Today, this site is known as "The Rocks" and can be seen at Fort Christina Park. The original ship was lost off Sweden, near the City of Kalmar, during a naval battle in the late 17th century. Some specifications: deck – 93'; overall length – 97' 3 1/2"; breath – 24' 11"; draft – 12' 2"; displacement – 317 long tons; and height (water line to main flagstaff top) – 105'. Photo pulled from the World Wide Web.*





"New World" April 17, 1640, on the second voyage of the *Kalmar Nyckel*. The ship sailed from Stockholm in the fall of 1639 and arrived at Fort Christina (named in honor of the Swedish queen), located on the shores of the Delaware River in the New Sweden colony. Peter was 28 years old at the time of the crossing. It is unknown just why he chose his fate in America. Several passengers onboard were deportees for a variety of crimes. However, rolls consistently list Peter as a "freeman" and no evidence exists in Sweden that Peter was deported. Furthermore, testimony from grandson John Rambo (1749) indicated Peter had planned ahead for his future in America by bringing apple and other garden and tree seeds in a box along with rye and barley. Peter later told the English (who eventually took over the New Sweden colony) his hands were the very first to sow seed in the settlement. Even today, a common type of apple in the area is called "Rambo." According to Craig – in his book, *The 1693 Census of the Swedes on the Delaware, Family Histories of the Swedish Lutheran Chuch Members Residing in Pennsylvania, Delaware, West New Jersey and Cecil County, Maryland, 1638-1693* – Peter worked as a farmhand for 10 guilders a month in the New World colony, sending some of the money home to his father.



***A RAMBO APPLE** like this one is usually a pale greenish-yellow with pale red and streaked carmine and scattered russet patches. It is lightly ribbed on the body and prominently ribbed at the eye. It has a subacid, slightly sweet flavor and ranges from medium to large in size. This apple is a favorite for the production of pies and pastries. Photo pulled from the World Wide Web.*

The journey on the *Kalmar Nyckel* wasn't easy at all. After leaving port in September of 1639 in conjunction with the ship *Fogel Gripp*, the ship twice had to turn back after springing leaks. Following the replacement of Captain Cornelis Van Vliet and leaving port for good on Feb. 7, 1640, Atlantic Ocean storms made the journey rough. To top this off, the new Dutch shipmaster, Captain Pounell Jansen, scolded and cursed the Swedes, comtemptuous of their Lutheran religion. Jansen preferred to smoke and drink with his fellow Dutch West Indies Company men.

After landing, the ship's passengers came ashore and purchased land from the Indian Sachems, who "attached" their totem. The deed was written in Dutch and signed by the Swedes. This original deed has long since been lost.

A settlement founded in 1638 by the first voyage of the *Kalmar Nyckel* was nearby and known as Fort Christina. The fort was two miles inland from the Delaware River where the ship originally landed. The fort's ramparts were constructed of palisades and earth. Guns from the ship were mounted on the walls for protection. Two houses were built inside its walls: One with a fireplace of brick was used as a dwelling while the other was probably a storehouse.

Settlers called the Delaware the South River while the Hudson was called the North River.

Indians around the settlement were primarily of the Algonquian nations. The land itself was purchased fom the Lenni Lenape, or Delaware Indians, an important branch of the Algonquian confederacy. Yet, it was the Minquas Indians 75 miles north of the settlement who traded beaver skins with the Swedes and called themselves the "special friends and protectors of the Swedes."

Peter learned enough of the Algonquian language to serve as an interpreter to the settlement and eventually became a trusted friend of the Indians. A 1675 colonial document described a conference between the governor, magistrates of Newcastle and Indian sachems of New Jersey:

> Aewcastle, May 13, 1675
>
> Upon an appearance of the Indyans before the Vo; & the New Magistrates in the afternoone. They were those who came in the morne, with Mr. S. Edsall, Isr. Helme, and Lanse Cock. The names of the Chiefs were Renowewan of Sawkin on the Eastern side, Ipan Kickan of Rancokeskill, Kitmarius of Soupnapka, Manickty of Rancokestill herefore all of N. Jersy side. The Govenor declares his desire to continue in friendship with them & his readiness to protect them, & thanks them for their coming down.

They by Israel Helme the Interpreter expresse their rediness to continue in good friendship & return their thanks to the Gov. They are told that the governor wants their help – if the other Indyans will bee bad, he can deale well enough with them, but now is wishing to be kind to those that will live quietly and well. They believe so they say.

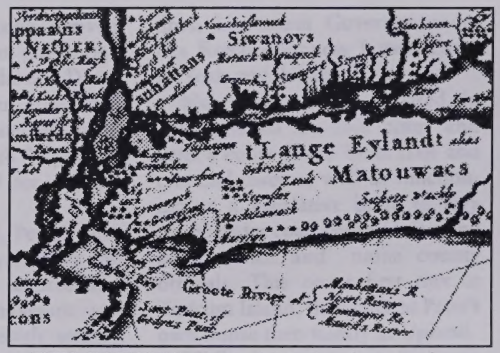
They are told they must not kick the beasts or swine belonging to the Christians & the Christians shall not doe them any injury, but justice shall be done as they might see today in the case of Jam Sandylands.

The first sachem rises up & walks up & down taking notice of his old Acquaintance P. Rambo & Peter Cock, Lansa Cock with C. Cantwell then taking a band of sewant, he measured it from his neck to the length downward & said his hearst should be so long & so great to the Gov. & the Christians & should never forget the Gov. so presents the belt of wampum, throwing it at the Gov. feet. The next rises up & professing much friendship & thanks to the Gov. for his kind expressions presents another belt of wampum.

The Gov. (Andros) tells them the two belts shall be kept as bands of friendship between them. The belts of sewant were written upon to be kept in token of a continuance of Peace. The first belt was 15, t'other 12 wampum high.

The Gov. presents them with 4 Coates and 4 lappeloathes. They return thanks and fall a kintacoying with expressions of thanks, singing kenon, kenon.

Trade was the major purpose of the settlement, under the auspices of the Swedish West Indies Company. By 1641, however, small gardens had sprung up. By 1643, land was allotted for fields and corn and tobacco was planted.



THIS PORTION OF A 1651 Dutch map shows Manhattan Island and Greenpoint. The Hudson River was originally known as the Groote River, although a total of four names (all listed on the map) were used. Photo pulled from the World Wide Web.

Also by 1641, other settlers were in the area, including English and Dutch colonists. They had many kinds of supplies but charged exhoribant prices. Trade from New England arrived that spring, ruining trade with the Indians. Squabbling also broke out among the English and Dutch. English settlers built a fort in late 1641 which the Dutch captured and burned in 1642. The English were taken prisoner. Peter Ridder, the Fort Christina commander, may have sent some of his soldiers to aid the Dutch offensive. This Swede-Dutch alliance wouldn't last for long.

The 1640 decade was a tumultous one for the Swedish foothold in the New World. Governor Johann Bjornsson Printz (1643-53), appointed in January 1643, listed 121 persons in the colony in his 1644 report to the Company. By 1647, the population had only increased to 183 as several had returned to Sweden when their obligated time in the colony expired. Printz, like his predecessor Governor Ridder, complained the settlers were inept and unskilled. However, this was untrue as the colony included several skilled laborers and miltary men, among them Peter Rambo, Captain Sven Skute, Peter Cock, Michel Nilsson (the blacksmith) and Johan Stalkofta.

Many of these families intermarried and figured prominently in the history of Swedes in America. Peter's son, Peter Jr., married Skute's daughter while sons Gunnar and John married two of Cock's daughters.

In 1647, the new Dutch governor, Peter Stuyvesant, provoked hostilities between the Swedes and Dutch settlers, who were under the authority of the Dutch West Indies Company. The Dutch built Fort Casimir in 1651 on the peninsula near present-day New Castle, Pennsylvania, cutting Fort Christina off from ships coming up the Delaware River. Military skirmishes between the two settlements began in earnest in 1654. Captain Skute and a Swedish force captured Casimir in late 1654, renaming it Fort Trinity. The occupation was short-lived; the Dutch recaptured the fort then beseiged Fort Christina. After a short resistence, the Swedes gave up and signed articles of surrender on Sept. 15, 1655.

Sixteen days before the surrender (on Aug. 30, to be exact), Peter volunteered to proceed south by

canoe from his plantation to help defend New Sweden from the Dutch seige. Historians are unsure if he actually went for he attended a council meeting on Sept. 16, agreeing to stay in the colony which then fell under Dutch control. Several Swedes, including the new governor, Johan Claesson Rising (1654-55), returned to Sweden rather than serve under Stuyvesant and the Dutch.

Peter had been on uneven terms with Rising and his predecessor, Printz. Around 1648, Peter moved to a plantation near Cobble Creek in Kingsessing near present-day West Philadelphia. Heavy rains in 1652 damaged many crops but Peter had some surplus and apparently sold it to the Dutch. This angered Printz, who charged him with illegally making the sale. Shortly thereafter, Peter was one of 22 freemen in the area who signed a July 27, 1653, complaint against Printz, charging him with imposing his will over that of the jury and other crimes endangering their lives and property. The leader of this "revolt," Anders Jonsson, was arrested, tried and convicted of treachery; he was executed Aug. 1, 1653. Printz sailed back to Sweden in May of 1654 and was replaced by Rising. Until Rising arrived, Skute served as interim governor.

Records also show Dutch authorities paid Peter one-and-a-half jugs of brandy, one-half barrel of beer and food worth 38 guilders for "chopping wood for export" on Dec. 3, 1657.

On the other hand, Peter's dealings with the Dutch were most cordial and apparently appreciated. Dutch Governor Stuyvesant was lenient with the Swedish settlers, most of whom remained in the New World. Stuyvesant, in fact, granted the Swedish colony self-rule, following an oath of allegiance to the Dutch government. On May 8, 1658, elections in the former Swedish colony were held and Peter was appointed a magistrate. He would also serve as a Councilman and Commissary in Upper Merion (now Philadelphia). Before the Dutch, Peter had served as a Deputy for the Swedes.

Peter served in many positions for the next several years, both for the Dutch and the English who followed. In 1676, as a member of the Upland Court, he was commissioned a Justice of the Peace for the Delaware River Area and its dependancies and also to a court of Judiacature by Sir Edmund Andros, Lieutenant Governor under His Royal Highness James, Duke of York and Albany.

Not many courts existed in Pennsylvania at this time and Peter's court heard both civil and criminal cases as well as functioning as a legislative body to levy taxes, order road construction and maintenance and name county officials. This court first met at Tinicum Island, then later at Peter's own house then finally at Upland.

While in session at his own house, records show he was paid for entertaining the governor and other high-ranking officials and hearing criminal cases of murder and rape.

Serving as a magistrate apparently taxed Peter greatly because he tried to resign in 1660 and again in March of 1661. Both times, he claimed he had "to take care of a very large family and therefore cannot well, unless to his great disadvantage, spare the time to attend to the aforesaid office." His second resignation was accepted but Governor Lovelace reappointed him in 1664. Peter served continuously, hardship or not, until 1680 when he retired for good.

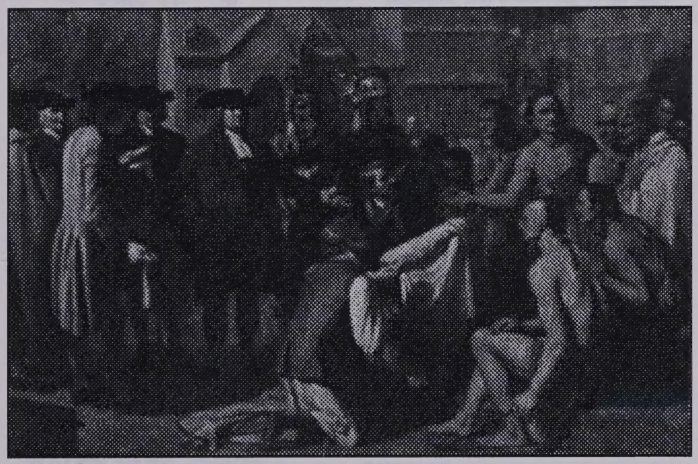
While on the bench in 1671, Peter heard a proposition regarding the defense of the Delaware River against Maryland's threatened invasion. Later (in 1684, following his retirement), Peter gave testimony to the court about Dutch settlements along the Delaware River established before 1632 to refute Lord Baltimore's claim to the territory for the state of Maryland. In one deposition of "Certain Ancient Sweeds Living on the West Side of the Delaware," Peter, Peter Cock and Hance Monson testified:

> In the year 1639, 10th March, one of the above said shipps returned with Peter Holland (Peter Holland Ridder) deputy Governo(u)r for the Sweeds, Peter Rambo, Andrees Bown (Andreas Boon) & severall other Sweeds, who bought Land from an Indian king Named Kekesikkun from the abovenamed distance of a Cannon bullet shott as farr as over against Mekaquatshoe eight miles above Burlington.

In the same document, the trio told of being sent by Governor Printz in 1651 to Colonel Lloyd, then deputy of Lord Baltimore, in Severn (now Annapolis), Maryland. Lloyd returned a letter with his signature, assuring Printz there was no claim on the Swedish settlements or lands. Peter was approximately 39 years old at the time of the diplomatic mission.

England sent a military force against New Amsterdam in 1664 and in 1668 the Dutch colonies in the New World (which included the former Swedish settlements) were reorganized under the Duke of York and Captain Robert Carr, the deputy governor. Peter was appointed to Captain Carr's Council by Governor Lovelace.

Peter was in Passyunk on the east side of the Schuylkill River, opposite Aronameck, by the year 1669. A patent, dated Oct. 1, 1669, was filed for 300 acres of this land. Peter spent his remaining days there, living with Britta and, following her death in 1693, son Andrew. In further land dealings, Peter and son-in-law Peter Mattson Dalbo petitioned the court March 12, 1677 (or 1678), for 200 acres on the east side of the Schuylkill River. On Nov. 13, 1677, Peter again petitioned the court regarding land, this time 250 acres between the land of Wicaco and that owned by Jurian Hertswelder. He lost a court case in March of 1678-79 when the Svenson brothers provided evidence of an earlier patent for land in Wicaco. Peter won in another case of land ownership when the court ruled he had legally obtained a patent for 12 acres of marshland used by Hans Mansson and Peter Jocum.



***WILLIAM PENN** (1644-1718), an English Quaker, founded the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania as a religious haven. Here, he was portrayed as the central figure in Benjamin West's 1772 painting of "Penn's Treaty with the Indians," which depicts a scene from his first visit to America. Penn and Peter Gunnarsson Rambo were friends and neighbors in the New World. Photo courtesy of Grolier Multimedia Encyclopedia.*

By the time of his death in 1698, Peter owned: 650 acres on the west side of the Delaware River in present-day Kingsessing; 300 acres on Homan's and Little Mantua Creek in present-day Gloucester County, New Jersey; and tracts on the west side of the Schuylkill River.

Some of the Rambo lands were claimed by Pennsylvania's William Penn. In repayment, Penn granted other tracts of land further inland to Peter and his sons. Penn, in fact, must have known Peter well and respected him. From London, Penn wrote a Jan. 16, 1685, letter to Thomas Lloyd: "Salute me to the Swedes, Captain Cock, old Peter Cock and Rambo and their sons, the Swansons, Andrew Binkson, P. Yoakum and the rest of them."

Like most Swedes, Peter was a Lutheran. Once in America, Peter became one of the founders and longtime vestryman of the first Swedish church in the New World. A log blockhouse near Fort Christina was converted to a church for services in the mid-1660s. Services were held there until a larger site was deemed necessary sometime in the 1690s.

Some of the settlers wanted the new church located at Passyunk but a drawing eventually won out for Wicaco, located a short distance south of Penn's Landing in Philadelphia. Gloria Dei Church's cornerstone was laid in 1697 with the red-brick building, bell tower and steeple completed and dedicated June 2, 1700. A figure of Gabriel, the trumpet-bearing angel, was suspended over the altar; this was a common custom for Swedish churches of the time. Peter, of course, was dead and buried by this time and church officials decided not to move his grave, but build over it instead. According to a church rector's report, Peter's grave is under the altar.

Gloria Dei Church switched to English services in 1787. In 1845, it switched to Episcopal services which continue to this day. Gloria Dei (which translates to *Old*

Swedes') Church still stands in Philadelphia and was named a National Historic Shrine in 1942 by the U.S. Department of the Interior. In nearby Philadelphia City Hall, a large plaque commemorates Peter, Peter Cock, Anders Dalbo and seven other prominent Swedish settlers and leaders of New Sweden from 1638 to 1655.

Peter was one of the last original Swedish settlers to die, passing away in 1698. His will was probated Nov. 6, 1698, and is still on record today in Philadelphia County (*Philadelphia Wills, Vol. III, 1682-1726*, page 423, Book A). Son Andrew was named executor but was already dead as well; son Peter Jr. administered the estate instead.

Peter wrote in his will:

...first and principally I commend my Soul into the hands of Almighty God hoping through the merits, death and passion of my Savior Jesus Christ to have full statisfaction and foregiveness of all my Sins and inherit eternal life. And my bodie I committ into ye earth to be ____ decintlie buryed att ye burying place at Wicacoe, att ye discretion of my dear son after mentioned....

First, I will that all debts and funeral charges be first paid and discharged.

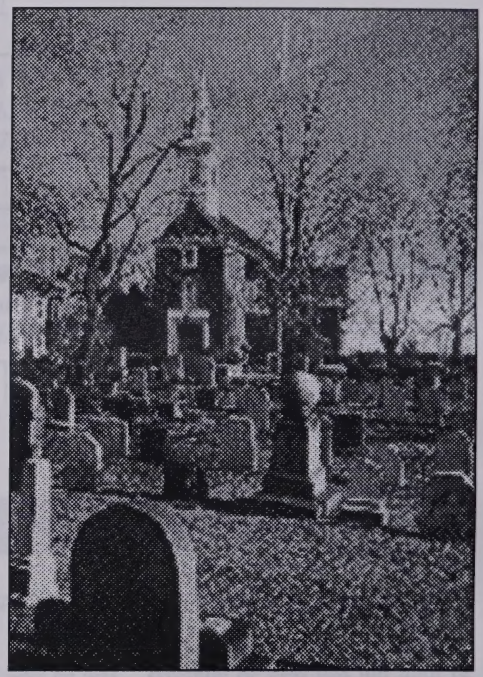
Secondly, I give and dispose unto my son Gunner Rambo 300 acres of land in West New Jersey on Homons Creek.

Thirdly, I give and bequeath unto my son John Rambo the tract of land which he now liveth upon in West New Jersey aforesaid lying on Little Mantua Creek.

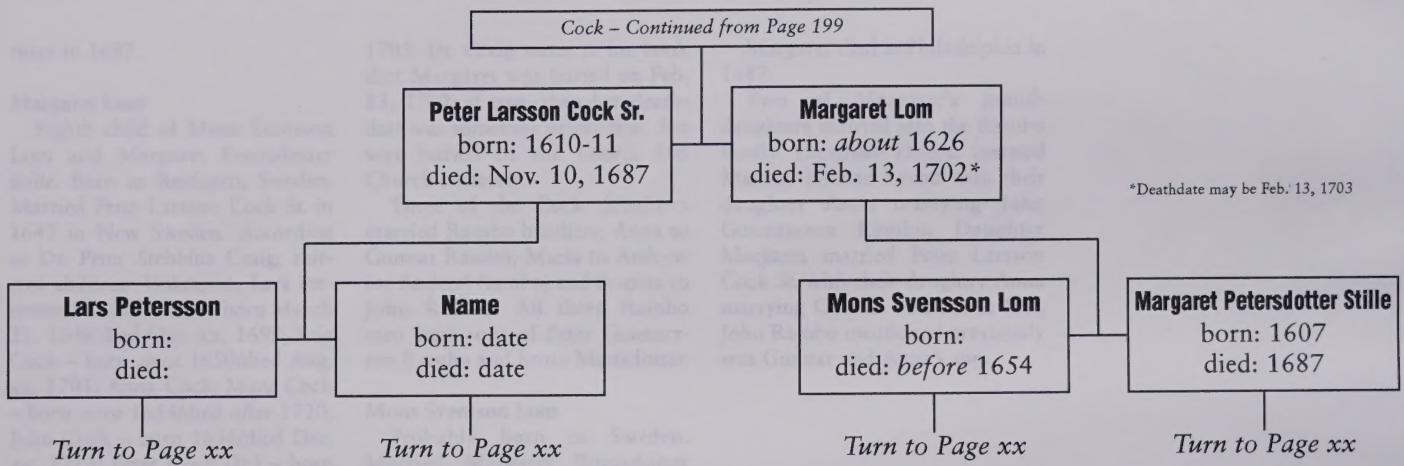
Fourthly, I give unto my son Andrew Rambo the tract of land whear I now live containing 353 acres of said land, marsh and provits. As also 12 acres of meadow ground lying opposite to the Township of Passayunk, with all and singular rights, priviledges and appertenances there unto the said marsh and privets belonging and containing to his heirs and assigns forever after my decease, further I give unto my son Andrew all right title and interest in Costers Saw Mill, and further all my moveables, lands, good chattells, besides what is particularlie disposed of and I euqallie give and disppose thereof unto my sons Gunner, Peter and John Rambo and to Yertrude Banks [actually daughter Gertrude], wife to Andrew Bankson and Catherine Dalbo, wife of Peter Dalbo, all which said six persons I desire to be justlie equal and order not anie one to have any greater part of share in value than the other of the said lands, goods and chattels as aforesaid mentioned....

Robert Langshore, Peter Dalbo (Peter's son-in-law), Matthias Holstein and Lasse Cock served as witnesses.

In an interesting side note, Peter was always described as a literate man. The will, however, contained no signature; instead, he placed his "mark" of three triangles at the bottom.



GLORIA DEI (OLD SWEDES') Church is the oldest church in Pennsylvania and one of the first Swedish Lutheran churches in America. Peter Gunnarson Rambo, an early member of the Swedish church, was already dead by the time of the church's completion in 1700 and officials decided not to move his remains; his grave is located under the altar. Gloria Dei switched to English services in 1787 then became an Episcopal church in 1845. Photo pulled from the World Wide Web.



Biographies

Peter Larsson Cock Sr.

Eldest son of Lars Petersson and unknown mother. Born in Bangsta, Turinge Parish, Stockholm, Smedjegarden, Sweden. Married Margaret Lom in 1643. Eight children.

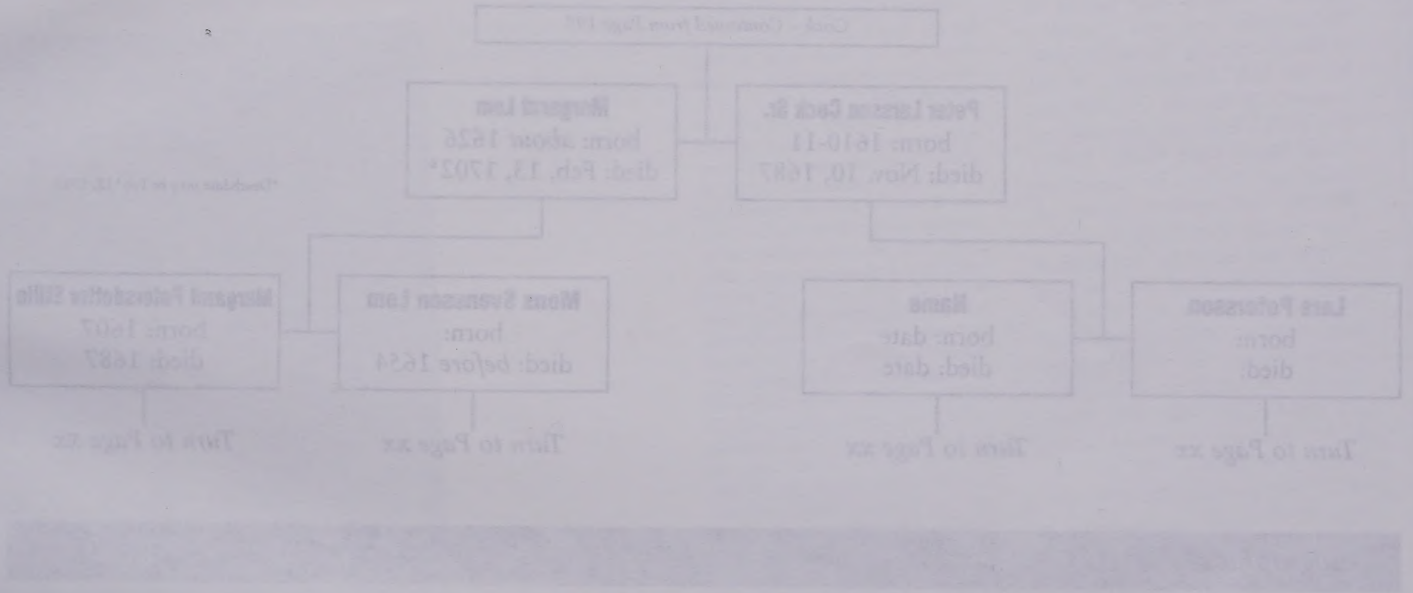
According to Dr. Peter Stebbins Craig, the official historian of the Swedish Colonial Society, Peter earned his surname aboard the ship *Charitas*, which sailed from Stockholm to the colony of New Sweden in the New World of America (near the present-day city of Wilmington, Delaware) in 1641. *Kock* means *cook* in Swedish with the name evolving into *Cock* and later into *Cox*. Peter served as the ship's cook for the voyage.

Peter's voyage was also eventful in that he met a 15-year-old girl, Margaret Lom, who was emigrating to the New World with her parents and siblings. Within two years, the pair were married in New Sweden.

In his research, Craig notes Peter was an imprisoned soldier at Smedjegarden in Stockholm, though it is unknown why he was incarcerated.

Once in New Sweden, Peter went to work for the colony's benefit. In July 1651, he worked as an interpretory for Governor Johann Printz in negotiations with local Indians over land ownership. Under Governor Johan Rising, he served on the New Sweden court. Following the Dutch takeover, Peter served as a justice for the upriver Swedes in current-day Pennsylvania; he held this job until he was replaced by son Captain Lasse Cock in 1680.

Peter owned an extensive plantation called *Kipha* on "Peter Cock's Island." Actually, his island was two small islands on the Schuylkill River, today known as Fisher's Island and Carpenter's Island, respectively. Peter died



there in 1687.

Margaret Lom

Eighth child of Mons Svensson Lom and Margaret Petersdotter Stille. Born in Roslagen, Sweden. Married Peter Larsson Cock Sr. in 1643 in New Sweden. According to Dr. Peter Stebbins Craig, thirteen children: Unknown; Lars Petersson "Lasse" Cock – born March 21, 1646/died Oct. xx, 1699; Eric Cock – born *circa* 1650/died Aug. xx, 1701; Anna Cock; Mans Cock – born *circa* 1654/died *after* 1720; John Cock – born 1656/died Dec. xx, 1713; Peter Cock (Jr.) – born 1658/died May xx, 1708; Magdalena Cock – born 1659/died *after* 1723; Maria Cock – born 1661/died *after* 1717; Gabriel Cock – born 1663/died *after* 1714; Brigitta Cock – born 1665/died 1726; Margaret Cock – born 1667/died 1701; and Catherine Cock – born 1669/died 1748.

All of the children were born in New Sweden.

Margaret met future-husband Peter aboard the ship *Charitas* in 1701. Margaret was just 15 years old when her parents emigrated to New Sweden. Peter served as the *Charitas* cook during that voyage.

Margaret died in either 1702 or 1703. Dr. Craig states in his book that Margaret was buried on Feb. 13, 1702; if true, then her death-date was sometime before that. She was buried in the Gloria Dei Church cemetery.

Three of the Cock daughters married Rambo brothers: Anna to Gunnar Rambo; Maria to Andrew (or Anders) Rambo; and Brigitta to John Rambo. All three Rambo men were sons of Peter Gunnarsson Rambo and Britta Mattsdotter.

Mons Svensson Lom

Probably born in Sweden. Married Margaret Petersdotter Stille. Eight children.

Mons emigrated to the New World in 1641 aboard the ship *Charitas*, which sailed from Stockholm to the colony of New Sweden.

Bruce Ludwig, genealogist from Juneau, Alaska, claims Mons was a tailor and lieutenant.

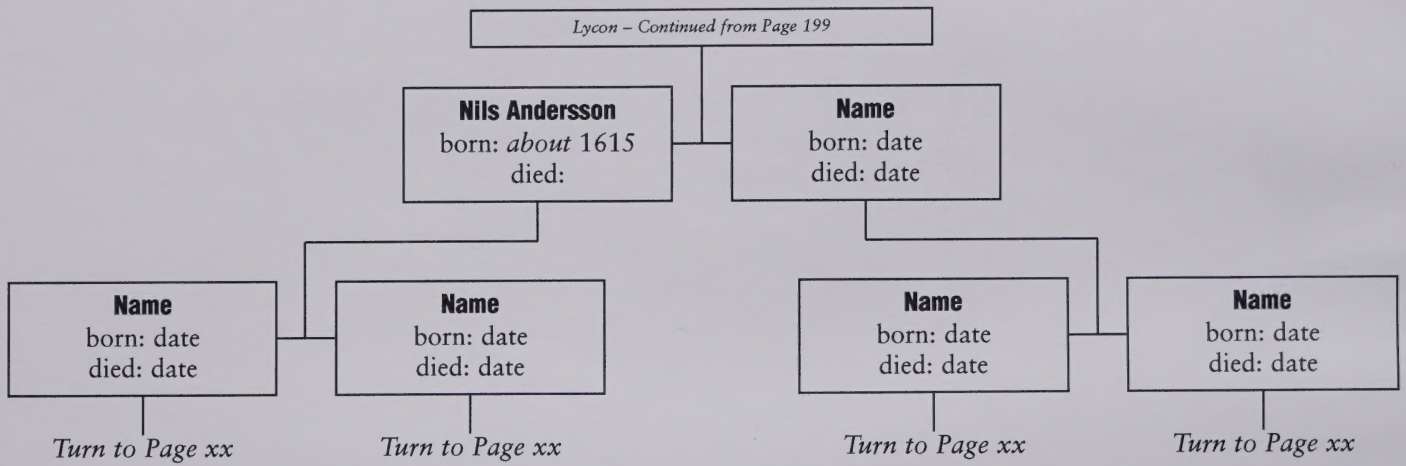
Mons died in 1654.

Margaret Petersdotter Stille

Born in Sweden. Married Mons Svensson Lom. Eight children: Peter Miansson Lom; Sven Mansson Lom; Catherine Lom; Beata Lom; Christina Lom; Maria Lom; Helena Lom; and Margaret Lom.

Margaret died in Philadelphia in 1687.

Two of Margaret's granddaughters married into the Rambo family. Daughter Helena married Michael Nilsson Lycon with their daughter Anna marrying John Gunnarsson Rambo. Daughter Margaret married Peter Larsson Cock Sr. with their daughter Anna marrying Gunnar Rambo. In fact, John Rambo mentioned previously was Gunnar and Anna's son.

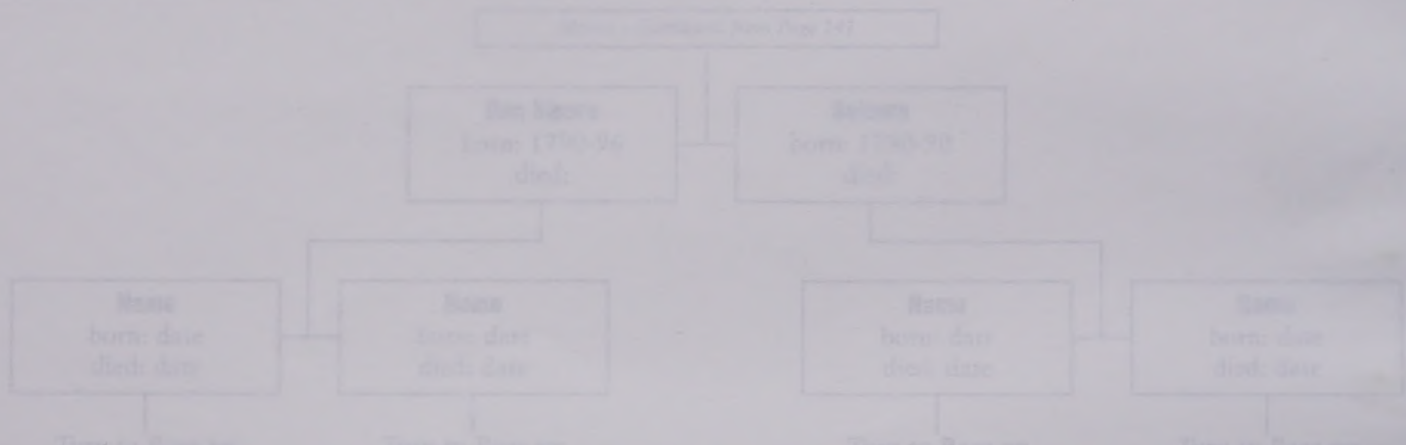


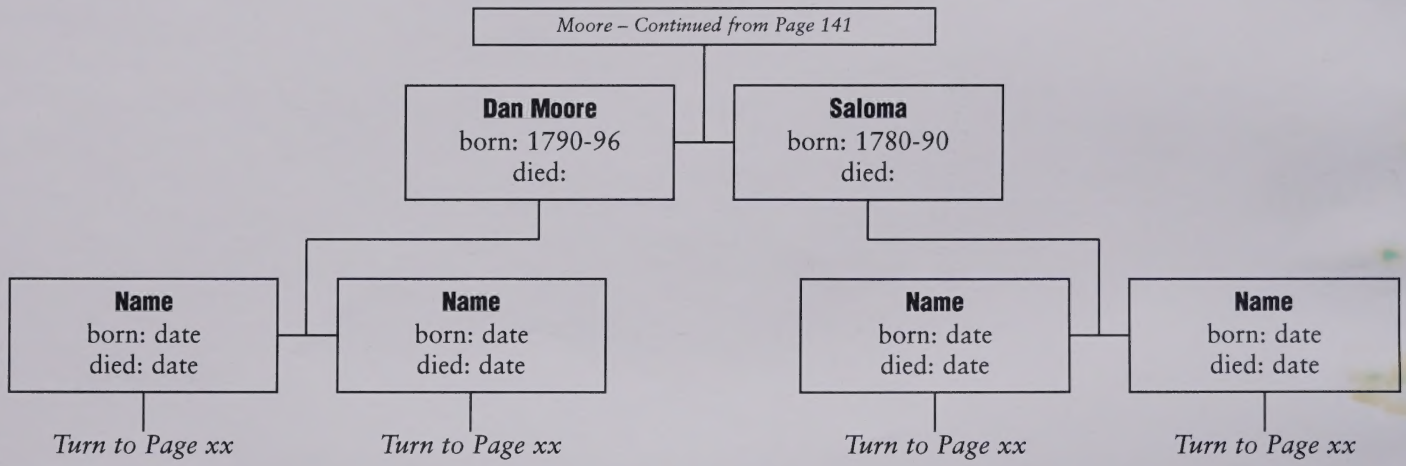
Biographies

Nils Andersson

Born in the small village of "Lyckan" in Varmland, Sweden. Married, wife's name unknown. At least two children: Peter Nillsson (Laicom) Lycon – born 1640/died 1692; and Michael Nilsson Lycon.

Born of the known children were born in Sweden, possibly in Lyckan. Both also emigrated to the New World of America. Michael died in Gloucester County, New Jersey, in 1703 while Peter died in 1692 in Shackamaxon (Philadelphia County), Pennsylvania.





Biographies

Dan Moore

Born in Scotland. Married Saloma, maiden name unknown. At least two children.

One of the name was found in the 1820 Ohio census with a household with members of the correct age. In Bloomfield Township of Knox County, it contained two males, ages 0-10; one male, 26-45; three females, 0-10; one female, 10-16; one female, 16-26; and one female, 26-45. One person was employed in agriculture.

This individual was found in Clinton Township of Knox County in 1830 with one male, age 0-5; one male, 5-10; one male, 30-40; one female, 0-5; two females, 5-10; two females, 10-15; one female, 20-30; and one female, 40-50.

Daughters Elizabeth and Saloma would have been ages 2 and 4, respectively, in 1820 and 12 and 14 in 1830.

Elizabeth later married Solomon Rambo and lived in Perry County, Ohio, before moving on to Indiana. Knox and Perry counties are located in central Ohio, just west of present-day Columbus.

Researcher Beverly Sprague found family traditions documenting Solomon Moore (born 1794, died Nov. xx, 1856), who married Mary Truex (daughter of Benjamin and Catherine Sams Truex). Tradition claims Solomon was a son to Dan, but with a 1794 birthdate, it is more likely he was a brother, not a son, of Dan.

Saloma

Maiden name unknown. Married Dan Moore. At least two children: Saloma "Loney" Moore – born March 14, 1816/died Nov. 13, 1899 (or Oct. 23, 1893); and Elizabeth Moore.

Daughter Saloma was born in Pennsylvania while Elizabeth was born in Ohio.